

THE U.F.A.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF
THE UNITED FARMERS OF ALBERTA :: THE ALBERTA WHEAT POOL
AND OTHER PROVINCIAL MARKETING POOLS

Vol. VIII.

CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 1st, 1929

No. 7.

Sale of Northern Railways Approved by Alberta Legislature

Staff Correspondence

Parliament Maintains Ban on Titles

By L. H. JELLIFF, M.P.

Official News from the Alberta Wheat Pool

First Interim Payment—The New Wheat Pool Bill

Annual Meeting of Southern Alberta Dairy Pool

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA

A TOWER OF STRENGTH

	1928	
Assurances in force (net)	- - - -	\$1,896,915,000
An Increase of \$408,925,000		
New Assurances Paid for	- - - -	441,244,000
An Increase of \$112,836,000		
Total Income	- - - -	144,747,000
An Increase of \$41,972,000		
Surplus earned during the Year	- - - -	40,264,000
Payments to Policyholders and Beneficiaries	- - - -	49,920,000
Surplus and Contingency Reserve	- - - -	66,938,000
An Increase of \$9,157,000		
Total Liabilities	- - - -	422,020,000
(Including Paid up Capital)		
Assets, at December 31st, 1928	- - - -	488,958,000
An Increase of \$87,652,000		
Rate of Interest earned on mean invested assets (net)	- - - -	6.58%

**DIVIDENDS TO POLICYHOLDERS INCREASED
FOR NINTH SUCCESSIVE YEAR**

The Company has also inaugurated the practice of paying a special maturity dividend on participating policies, ten or more years in force, terminating by death or maturity.

EXTRACTS FROM DIRECTORS' REPORT

... After deducting amounts re-assured, the total assurances in force now amount to \$1,896,915,934.57, an increase of \$408,925,254.48. Policies in force number 633,240, and in addition 136,293 certificates of assurance are held by employees of corporations and firms under the group plan.

While every field of operation contributed its full share to these impressive advances, the rapid development of our business in Great Britain and the United States is especially noteworthy. The generous reception of our Company in countries served by powerful domestic institutions is particularly gratifying, as testifying to widespread appreciation of our record and services.

... The amount paid to policyholders since organization, together with the amount at present held for their security or benefit, exceeds the total amount received from them in premiums by \$111,370,229.10.

The strength and resources of the Company have been still further enhanced.

The net rate of interest earned on the mean invested assets, after making provision for investment expenses, has risen to 6.58 per cent. Dividend increases, bonuses and stock privileges, accruing on many of the Company's holdings, contributed substantially to this gratifying result.

A net profit of \$11,028,854.59 has been realized from the redemption or sale of securities which had risen to high premiums.

The securities listed in the assets have been valued at figures substantially below the values placed on them by the Government. This under-valuation of our securities represents an important safeguard against possible adverse market fluctuations, additional to the reserves specifically provided against that contingency.

We are again able to report that on the bonds and preferred stocks listed in the assets, not one dollar, due either

as interest or as dividend, is in arrear for a single day, while the dividends accruing to common stocks exceed by several million dollars those payable on the same stocks at the time of purchase.

The surplus earned during the year, based on the values given in the accounts, amounted to \$40,264,088.52.

\$10,000,000 has been deducted from the already heavily marked-down value of securities, as additional provision against possible fluctuations, increasing the amount so set aside to \$20,000,000.

The special amount set aside as a liability to provide for unforeseen contingencies has been maintained at \$12,500,000.

\$15,822,339.65 has been paid or allotted as profits to policyholders during the year.

After making all deductions and allocations, \$9,157,966.34 has been added to the undivided surplus, bringing the total over liabilities, contingency accounts, and capital stock, to \$54,438,862.48.

The continued prosperity of the Company enables your Directors to announce, for the ninth successive year, a substantial increase in the scale of profits to be distributed to participating policyholders during the ensuing year.

In addition, your Directors have inaugurated the principle of granting a Special Dividend on participating policies maturing after having been in force ten years or longer. This new bonus will enable policyholders or beneficiaries whose withdrawal is occasioned by the maturity of policy contracts, to participate in the accumulated surplus which it has not as yet been considered prudent to divide.

The effort to provide life assurance at the lowest net cost obtainable has been increasingly appreciated. Our policyholders will be gratified by this further evidence of our desire that the Company's prosperity shall be fully shared by its members.

Sun Life Assurance Company
of Canada

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THE ALBERTA LIVESTOCK POOL
THE ALBERTA DAIRY POOL
THE ALBERTA EGG AND POULTRY POOL
THE ALBERTA CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE

Editor

W. NORMAN SMITH

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CALGARY, ALBERTA, MARCH 1st, 1929

No. 7.

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EDITORIAL

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CAMPAIGN FUNDS

Evidence was given last week before the Royal Commission which is inquiring into certain matters arising out of the Seven Sisters deal in Manitoba, to the effect that the Winnipeg Electric Company had made contributions to the campaign funds of the three major political parties at the time of the Provincial general election of 1927. The evidence was given by J. R. Coyne, K.C., a director of the company, and by Lawrence Palk, assistant to the president. According to the newspaper summary, Mr. Palk, who was a very reluctant witness, admitted under pressure that "the money had not been put through the regular books, but had been kept in another account to avoid misunderstanding on the part of subordinates as to the purpose behind the payments." The witness added, by way of explanation, that "there would have been talk if the fund became common knowledge."

Of course, there is nothing very remarkable about these revelations. Contributions have always been made by powerful industrial and financial interests to the

funds of political parties from whose legislation or administrative acts they hope to benefit. That is a normal procedure under the party system. That is why, though Canada has the forms of democracy, it has little democracy in fact. Unlike the rank and file of the political parties who line up at election times in support of this political party or that, the olympians who provide most of the party funds are non-partizan. They do not share the popular romantic illusions; they are realists. Within very recent memory it was stated before another Royal Commission that contributions had been made to the funds of both old parties in the field of Federal politics, by the great Canadian distilleries.

There are, in fact, only two ways in which political activities can be financed. They can be financed after the manner of the old and new political parties, by large contributions from small groups of interests who naturally expect to share in determining the policies of the parties they assist, or they can be financed by the people themselves, organized in order to make their citizenship effective in such groups as the United Farmers of Alberta and the Labor bodies. There can be no third course. The provision by the people themselves of the funds for the carrying on of their own political activities, and control by the people's own organizations of all political machinery, are the only means by which democracy can be made a reality.

* * *

NO HOPE ON THE OLD BASIS

The formation of a new political party can provide no remedy for the defects and abuses of the old, if it be built upon the old basis. Recognition of this fact led the Alberta farmers to decide, when they entered the field of active politics, that they would not attempt to create a new political party. To have done so would have been to court inevitable failure. A different method was therefore followed. This method, and the consequences of its adoption, were described by President Wood in his address before the Annual Convention of the U.F.A. this year.

"The U.F.A. Locals are the machinery through which our movement functions democratically," he stated. "Without this machinery it could not so function, and all the progress we have made politically would at once become nullified."

"It is not an accident that the Alberta Government has such a wide and favorable reputation for sane business and efficiency. The members of the Government have nothing to do but take care of the business of the Province, while you operate the political machinery, and elect them for that purpose. You operate the machinery with the greatest possible efficiency, and the least pos-

(Continued on page 7)

NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION

Activities of U.F.A. Locals and District Associations and Information from Central Office—Notes on Co-operation

NEAR SPIRIT RIVER

I. V. Macklin organized recently the new "Blueberry and Whitburn" Local near Spirit River. Thos. Paulson and E. G. Tomlinson are the officers.

NEW MEMBERS JOIN

Nine new members joined the Duchess U.F.A. Local at a recent meeting, says the *Brooks Bulletin*. The matter of grading and improving roads received discussion, the Local being unanimously in favor of grading several side roads, and filling numerous bad places in present grades.

SUCCESSFUL TURKEY DINNER

"Had a very successful turkey dinner on January 18th," states a report from J. C. Dawson, secretary of Olds U.F.A. Local, "at which Mr. Speakman and officials of the Wheat Pool spoke. Although a very cold night, over eight turned out."

BENEFIT FOR BALZAC FARMER

For the benefit of a farmer who had lost his barn and cows and horses and tools in a serious fire, farmers and farm women in the Balzac district organized a whist drive, dance and box social, which was held on Wednesday, February 20th, and proved a great success.

HALL IS GREAT HELP

"The U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Hall in the village is a great help in the social and educational line," writes G. H. Meadows, secretary of Tees U.F.A. Local. "It is 36 feet by 60, and was paid for inside of 13 months." A. D. Brawner is president of this Local for 1929.

SEED OATS FOR MEMBERS

Arrangements for the purchase of from seven to ten thousand bushels of seed oats have been made by Balzac U.F.A. Local, to meet the needs of their members. The terms provide for the vendor to supply Peace River oats, germinating 90 per cent or better according to Government test.

KIRKPATRICK PLANS DRIVE

At the annual meeting of Kirkpatrick U.F.A. Local Geo. L. King, Miss Olive Johnston and John Monkhouse were elected officers for the year 1929, the latter pro tem. It was arranged to start a membership drive, with Geo. L. King and M. C. Robson as captains, says a report in the *Youngstown Plaindealer*.

IN ACTION AGAIN

Clivale U. F. A. Local is in action again and members are coming in fast, reports E. H. Walton, secretary. "The new president is D. A. Crvak. A celebration was given to members and visitors consisting of a smoker card party, supper, and a real dance. Director J. E. Mudd gave a very interesting address."

HARVEST VALE LOCAL

Carl Axelson was organizer of Harvest Vale Local near Redcliff, states a report from R. S. Gurther, secretary. R. N.

Rose is president. It was originally intended to call the Local "Redcliff" but as all the members live in the Tilley East area, it was thought advisable to make the change, says Mr. Gurther.

CONVENTION TRIP WORTH WHILE

Fairacres U.F.A. Local has been having some good debates with other Locals in the district, reports D. Warwick, secretary. "We had a good meeting on February 15th, discussing municipal affairs. The secretary had his first trip to the U.F.A. Convention this year, and was greatly impressed with the way it is carried on. It is a trip well worth while."

"FASHION PARADE" AT WHITE

On February 20th White U.F.A. Local entertained the ladies of the U.F.W.A. Local with a musical program and bean supper. "The ladies were asked to come in their old clothes, as the waiters were rather inexperienced," writes J. T. Hadlington, secretary. "More old-fashioned than old were some of the costumes, which ranged from crinolines to bonnets and shawls, creating much fun and amusement. J. J. Tiffin and M. Luco were judges of a 'fashion parade' first and second honors going to Mrs. George Hadlington and Miss Molly Coupland respectively. Each of these ladies was presented with a handsome bouquet of alfalfa."

COUNTRY vs. CITY LIFE

The main event of the evening, at the last meeting of Burnside U.F.A. Local, states a report from H. L. Hehn, was a debate, "Resolved that country life is superior to city life." The affirmative was led by Mr. Jenkins, the negative by Mr. Bruce. This proved to be very interesting, writes Mr. Hehn, particularly as several members of the Local were called upon to support one side or the other. The decision was in favor of the affirmative side. The report of the Annual Convention was given by J. W. Brown, and the chairman also called upon Mr. Walsh to speak on this subject. L. Hehn gave a brief report of the Trustees' convention, dealing mainly with the new proposed rural school act.

DISCUSS POWER FARMING

Power farming was the chief subject of discussion at a recent meeting of the High River U.F.A. Local, presided over by W. B. Lind, according to the *High River Times*. T. Christofferson expressed the opinion that two small tractors took the place of 35 horses in farm operation. Irwin Sleeman thought that best results would be obtained by the use of both tractors and horses. Harry Pine, as well as Mr. Christofferson, held the view that the combine was as yet in the experimental stages. Alex. Fraser and David Morrison also spoke in favor of power farming, on the ground that it speeded up work. Wm. Robertson presented a strong case for the horse, marshalling figures to prove that there was much to be said for the reliability and efficiency of horsepower.

VALLEY SPRING PROSPERS

At the regular meeting of Valley Spring U. F. A. Local, held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Waite on February 14th, Wm. Cromley, A. Routledge and J. A. Waite were elected president, vice-president and secretary respectively. Five directors and a recreation committee were also elected. The auditor's report presented by W. G. Comely, showed the Local to be in a very prosperous condition. Three cars of coal were handled during the past year. \$92 was raised from three sacred concerts given by the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. choir, of which sum \$60 was sent to the Edmonton Junior Red Cross. The choir is commencing practices at once, with the intention of giving further concerts. It was decided to hold a series of social evenings. At the close of the business meeting, a joint meeting with the U.F. W.A. was held, when Mrs. J. A. Waite, U.F.W.A. delegate to the Annual Convention, gave a very able report, after which the ladies served lunch to over forty present.

Meetings Announced for Acadia

Directors for U.F.A. and U.F.W.A. Will Visit Many Locals

Hanna, Alta.

To Officers and Members of Locals mentioned below, in Federal Constituency of Acadia:

Mrs. Mary Banner, U.F.W.A. Director, and J. K. Sutherland, U.F.A. Director, for Acadia, will address meetings at the following points:

Carolside, Mon., Mar. 4.
Pollockville, Tues., Mar. 5.
Galarneauville, Wed., Mar. 6., 8 p.m.
Hutton, Thurs., Mar. 7th, 8 p.m.
Cessford, Friday, Mar. 8th, 8 p.m.
Howie, St. Julien Local, Sat., Mar. 9th, 8 p.m.
Cabin Lake, Mon., Mar. 11th, 8 p.m.
Bigstone, Tues., Mar. 12th, 8 p.m.
Mapleine, Wed., Mar. 13th, 8 p.m.
Crocus Plains, Thurs., Mar. 14, 8 p.m.
Kestone, Friday, Mar. 15th, 8 p.m.
Collholme, Sat., Mar. 16th, 8 p.m.
Clemens, Mon., Mar. 18th, 8 p.m.
Langford, Tues., Mar. 19th, 8 p.m.
Helmsdale, Wed., Mar. 20th, 8 p.m.
Golden Valley, Thurs., Mar. 21st, 8 p.m.
Good Cheer, Fri., Mar. 22nd, 8 p.m.
South View, Sat., Mar. 23rd, 8 p.m.
Vandyne, Monday, Mar. 25th, 8 p.m.
Acadia Valley, Tues., Mar. 26th, 8 p.m.
Glevannah, Wed., Mar. 27th, 8 p.m.
Bonny Brier, Thurs., Mar. 28th, 1:30 p.m.
Progress, Fri., Mar. 29th, 2 p.m.
Stanmore, Sat., Mar. 30th, 1:30 p.m.
Richdale, Sat., Mar. 30th, 8 p.m.
Model, Mon., April 1, hour not set.

As Mrs. Banner will take this long trip to all the above Locals, with the possible exception of Model Local, will as many as possible of the womenfolk turn out to meet her? If at any point the regular officers of the Local are absent, will someone else interested kindly see that the meeting is properly advertised and that arrangements are made for the meeting?

Sometimes a large crowd can be se-

cured if an entertainment or dance follows the meeting. We shall expect each Local to drive us on to the next meeting place, as on a long trip of this kind it will be impossible for us to take our own rig. Also accommodation for the night will be necessary.

Trusting we shall have a successful series of meetings,

Yours fraternally,

J. K. SUTHERLAND,
U.F.A. Director, Acadia.

Magrath Completes Membership Drive

Membership Raised to 147

Magrath has just completed another successful membership drive; the north side of town and district competing against the south. The south side lost out by about 20 members, and as a result had to put up a dance and supper which went over in splendid style Friday evening, February 22nd. A splendid program was also given, much to the pleasure of all present.

The Local have planned some interesting debates to be included in their future programs, in order to stimulate further interest in the meetings; they have also appointed a number of committees which will function the same as a board of trade in helping to put over those things necessary for the advancement of the town and district.

The Magrath Local can now boast a membership of one hundred and forty-seven (147), the second largest in its history, and we believe it is enough to still maintain the Garden City's Local as the largest in the Province. We have set a mark for sister Locals. Now shoot.

E. PINGREE TANNER, Sec.-Treas.

AT ALSTON LOCAL

"A very pleasant social evening was spent at the regular meeting of the Alston U.F.A. on Tuesday, February 12th. All business was tabled until the next meeting except the report of the recent U.F.A. convention, given by W. M. Isaacson, for which he was given a very hearty vote of thanks. Refreshments arranged for by Mr. and Mrs. Louis Miller were enjoyed by all, bringing to a close a very successful social gathering."—*Champion Chronicle*.

DEBATE CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

"A large crowd gathered in the U.F.A. Hall Friday afternoon to hear the reports of the delegates to the Convention. Jas. Mudie gave a good report of the U.F.A. Convention while Miss Greta Isaac gave a fine lengthy report of the U.F.W.A. sessions. Unfortunately A. Robinson failed to arrive in time to give his report and it was decided to have this at a future meeting. The meeting adjourned about five o'clock to convene at 8 sharp at which time a larger crowd gathered to hear a debate on the subject 'Resolved that Capital Punishment should be abolished.' Harrison Holmes and Irving Gould presented the arguments for the affirmative with Harvey Kelts and Thomas Gallaway on the negative. The debate was one sided, the figures being affirmative 68; neg. 84. Mrs. Stockman, Mr. Steel and Mr. Murray being the judges. Following the debate Rev. Mr. Brown entertained the assembly for an hour or more with a large number of lantern slides depicting scenes of the ancient buildings and monuments in the valley of the Nile."—*Consort Enterprise*.

Membership Campaign Makes Progress in Many Parts of Province

Secretaries and Other Canvassers Are Requested to See That All Authorization Forms Are Correctly and Fully Filled in

Progress in the U.F.A. membership campaign is reported from many parts of the Province, and large numbers of authorization forms on the Pools, are being received at Central Office.

Local secretaries and others who are obtaining signatures to the authorization forms are requested to see that all forms are properly filled in.

Please note that THE WHOLE OF THE WHITE SHEET SHOULD BE SENT IN TO CENTRAL OFFICE, UNDETACHED. The lower portion will be detached at the perforated line at Central Office, but the whole sheet should be mailed by the canvasser for membership intact.

The U.F.A. or U.F.W.A. Local secretary, or whoever may be engaged in canvassing SHOULD RETAIN THE YELLOW SHEET, WHICH SHOULD BE TURNED IN TO THE LOCAL CONCERNED. Thus every Local will have in its possession a duplicate of the form sent to Central Office.

Please note also that all of the information asked for should be filled in. On the upper portion of the sheet, where the amounts whose deduction is authorized are given under six headings, it is important to STRIKE OUT ANY ITEMS WHICH DO NOT APPLY TO THE INDIVIDUAL CONCERNED. For instance, there is first an item of \$2 for U.F.A. membership fee, and second another item of \$2 for U.F.W.A. membership fee. In the case of a member of the U.F.A., the second item should be struck out, and in the case of a member of the U.F.W.A., the first item (relating to the U.F.A.) should be struck out. Similarly with the other items.

The square in the upper right hand corner of the lower half of the sheet, where the total amount to be paid is to be shown, SHOULD BE FILLED IN IN EVERY CASE BEFORE THE FORM IS SENT IN TO CENTRAL OFFICE. Signatures must be witnessed, and the name of the Pool to which the authorization is to be forwarded should be filled in in every case.

U.F.A. Convention Urges Free Medical Attention for Ex-Soldiers

Unanimously Petition Dominion Government to Grant Measure of Justice to Returned Men—"Veterans' Section" of U.F.A. Formed

On the last day of the Annual Convention of the U.F.A., after there had been a very thorough discussion of ex-soldiers' problems by members of the "Veterans' Section of the U.F.A." at meetings during the week, the following resolution, which originated in the Westaskiwin Federal Constituency Association, was submitted to the Convention on motion of Mr. Draper and Mr. Fearnborough, and adopted unanimously:

Whereas, it is generally recognized by medical men that soldiers who have suffered the hardships of active service are more susceptible to numerous ailments and diseases by reason of such service;

Therefore be it resolved, that we petition the Dominion Government to enact legislation granting free medical attention and hospital treatment to all men who served in the Canadian forces overseas during the Great War.

In moving the adoption of the resolution, Mr. Draper declared that in view of the large and increasing number of cases among ex-soldiers who served in the Great War, of serious need for medical

attention, the time was opportune to press for this measure of justice and fair dealing. He cited cases which had come under his notice in which the need was very great. At the time of demobilization examinations had often been perfunctory, and men who previous to their war experience had enjoyed excellent health, and in whom no very serious consequences were apparent at the time of their discharge, were breaking down in health prematurely. The evidence was supported by so many instances, that there could be no question of the facts.

Penalty of Service

The inevitable penalty of service, somewhat deferred, was being paid. Today, money was being spent in cenotaphs, which were monuments to the "colossal stupidity" of the so-called civilized nations which had engaged in the folly of war. It was entirely fitting that money should be provided to look after the medical needs of men whose health had suffered in consequence of the war. The only plan which would ensure that no injustice should be done, was provided by

the resolution—free medical attention and hospital treatment for ALL who served.

Mr. Fearnough spoke briefly, supporting the case presented by Mr. Draper.

Memories Grow Dim

"Ten years have passed since the close of the war, and in that time memories grow dim," said Alfred Speakman, M.P., who as U.F.A. member on the House of Commons committee on returned soldiers' problems had been requested to speak on the resolution.

"I can endorse one hundred per cent what was said by the mover of this resolution," declared Mr. Speakman. Many people thought that the "peak" was over, so far as cases requiring medical attention were concerned. This was far from being the case. The peak had not yet been reached. Men who were discharged A1, who had been keen to get out of the army at the close of the war, and consequently made every effort to get through the medical examination quickly, were finding that their health had suffered seriously as the result of war service. There were men who needed attention who had carried on "to the last ditch" before they would report for examination, with a view to getting medical assistance.

"So long as one of the men who served is in penury, in want or suffering, so long Canada's debt to them has not been paid; the proposal contained in this resolution is entirely practicable, and should be carried out," Mr. Speakman concluded.

"Veterans' Section" of the U.F.A.

During the week of the Convention the ex-soldiers among the delegates and visitors arranged a luncheon which was very largely attended—more than twice as many being present as on the occasion of a similar gathering held in 1928, at the time of the previous Convention. The luncheon was attended by most of the U. F. A. members of Parliament. Col. Robinson, who for many years has taken a most active part in the discussion of returned soldiers' affairs, at successive Conventions, and through whom the initial steps were taken in the organization of the "Veteran's Section," last year, has written a brief letter on the objects and aims of the Section, which we publish on this page. We plan to provide whatever space may be necessary from time to time to deal with the affairs of the "Veterans' Section." As a preliminary we invite all who wish to have their names included as members of this section, including those who attended the meetings in Edmonton in January, to send in their names for record. A list was obtained at the luncheon, but as this was incomplete, we request ALL returned soldier members of the U.F.A. who participated in the proceedings, as well as others who did not attend the Convention, to send in their names at the first opportunity.—*Editor*.

Correspondence

AIMS OF VETERANS' SECTION

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

At the request of my comrades of the Veterans' Section of the U.F.A., I am going to give you, for the benefit of all comrade members of the U.F.A. who were unable to attend the Annual Convention, a short account of the history and aims of the Veterans' Section. I have interviewed the U.F.A. Executive and they

are thoroughly in accord and have the fullest sympathy with the aims of the Section.

For a number of years we have had meetings at the Annual Convention for the purpose of scrutinizing and supporting resolutions coming forward in the usual channels, and have on a number of occasions evolved resolutions of real value. It was moved and passed in one of our meetings that we call ourselves the "Veterans' Section in the U.F.A." and in a few words I want to give you what we have in our minds:

First, let us try and get all our comrades who are eligible into our U.F.A. and as many as possible to attend the Annual Convention. We can then arrange a session of ourselves and deal entirely with the problems that confront us as Veterans. The U.F.A. as an organization is in sympathy with our aims and has on every occasion, in times past, given us their support, and when we have a legitimate grievance to redress, our Federal and Provincial members will champion our cause. We find, as a result of our meetings, that some of our comrades can give us concrete cases of real grievances, and where our members are present we can receive the evidence and arrange the case so that it can be presented in a proper form before the department who can deal with it.

Our U.F.A. Editor has promised to help us in arranging space whenever possible, so that any comrade can bring any grievance he may have to our attention.

I have the honor to be,
Yours fraternally,
C. W. ROBINSON.

Calgary.

RE S.S.B. LANDS

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

I should like to draw the attention through the columns of our organization paper of the Federal U.F.A. members and of any returned soldier farmers, to what appears to me a gross unfairness in the drawing up of the Soldiers' Settlement Act. Here it is: When any returned man applies to the Settlement Board for the purchase of any land he is required to prove his aptitude for a farming life, and his power to pay 10 per cent of the purchase price up to a maximum of \$500 deposit. So far so good, but if the applicant happens to have a pre-war-civilian homestead he has to give that as collateral in addition.

The question arises: Why are the authorities satisfied with a plain one-tenth down in the case of non-pre-war farmers and not so with pre-1914 homesteaders? Surely, if experience counts for anything, the old-time homesteaders should be the more desirable settlers under this re-establishment scheme, and should be accepted with a lesser deposit of bona fides.

Those S.S.B. officials to whom I have put this same question escape answering it by affirming that their work is administration only; they have not to trouble to defend or question any objection that may arise to the constitution of the Act.

Yours truly,
THOMAS H. ROWE,
Late C.M.G.C.
Nakamun, Alta.

THE U.F.A. CONVENTION

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

In the forest, one crooked, gnarled tree will draw more attention than all of its straight, stately companions. One active

volcano will draw more attention than one hundred stately, majestic mountains, and sometimes the dust and gases belched forth will obscure the view. One spouting geyser will arrest more attention than four score clear, placid pools. In any large organization of men there is sure to be that lunatic fringe, and in the U.F.A. we always have the insurgents.

But the U.F.W.A. is quite different. Why? The history of this sad old world shows that man is destructive, and woman is constructive. That brave men go forth to destroy life, and that braver women work at home to preserve life. There has been scarcely any evidence of insurgency, or undue personal ambition in the U.F.W.A., for the highest ambition of the members, like the members of other women's organizations, is to promote the rights, interests, privileges, welfare and happiness of others, and their greatest pride is in the attainment of that object. The women devote much attention to those matters of such vast importance, education, temperance and health. May their efforts be crowned with further success.

Altogether, the Convention was highly satisfactory, in both sections.

Respectfully,
JOHN GALLOWAY.
11049-127th St. Edmonton.

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

I wish to place on record my cordial thanks for the illuminating and interesting information that has appeared recently in *The U.F.A.* in connection with the above most important subject.

A debt of gratitude is due to the able contributors of the opposing views, and to the compiler for the manner in which the data has been arranged in opposition.

There is always the danger in journals devoted to some particular cause, political or otherwise, that all opposition may be severely censored, or subdued, the convincing point of an article expunged, or at any rate, an effort made by devastating editorial comment, to neutralize conviction.

Undoubtedly the presentation of these pro and con arguments will enable any fair-minded, reasonable man, whether he be farmer or not, to form an independent opinion, so that when the time comes for him to exert his influence in connection with at least one aspect of public policy, he may not be wholly at the mercy of any prejudiced publicist.

GEORGE CRANE.
Westlock, Alta.

WHEAT POOL BILL PASSES SECOND READING

The Wheat Pool Bill passed second reading in the Alberta Legislature on February 25th, after a motion by A. A. McGillivray, to give this measure a six months' hoist, and thereby kill it, had been defeated. The only votes against second reading were those of Mr. McGillivray and two of his followers, John Irwin, of Calgary, and C. Y. Weaver, of Edmonton. Details of the debate will be given in our next issue.

GRAIN BOARD AT ROWLEY

Editor, *The U.F.A.*:

The writer was much interested in listening to the hearing by the Board of Grain Commissioners of the case Thomson Bros., of Rowley, vs. Home Grain Co., which hearing was held at Rowley on January the 22nd, 1929. It was unfortunate for everyone present except Mr. A. A. McGillivray, counsel for the Grain Company, that the hearing could not be concluded at Rowley owing to the limited time between trains, there being a large crowd of interested listeners including a number of ladies, from Rumsey, Rowley and Morrin. In addition to the three members of the Grain Commission, Chairman Boyd, Messrs. Snow and Robinson, the Secretary to the Commissioners, their Special Counsel and Stenographer, Mr. Porter representing Thomson Bros. and Mr. McGillivray representing the Home

Grain Co. Mr. R. McPherson was an interested listener on behalf of the Pool, as was also Mr. E. J. Garland, M.P.

It is clear to the writer's mind, after subsequent perusal of the Canada Grain Act as to points raised at this hearing, that the Board have authority to pass judgment in this case and have their finding put into effect, because this is a clear breach of the Canada Grain Act in (a) refusal of the Home Grain Co. to deliver the car of wheat in question on track as requested; (b) refusal of the company to issue special Bin Storage tickets as required by the Canada Grain Act. This dispute is not between the Home Grain Co. and the Alberta Wheat Pool, but between Thomson Bros., farmers, and the Home Grain Co. The fact that Thomson Bros. had a car ready for loading the wheat and a permit to ship to Vancouver, and also tendered payment of local elevator charges, makes it clear

the Home Grain Co. had no grounds for refusing to deliver the grain as requested.

It appears very clear to the writer, from observations at this hearing and dissatisfaction expressed that there is considerable truth in Mr. Garland's statements at the U.F.A. Convention at Edmonton recently referring to the lack of confidence of the farmers in the present Board.

The farmers are determined to have their rights under the Canada Grain Act, including the Campbell Amendment and other amendments if necessary, referring to special bins and shipping to their desired terminal and it appears to the writer quite within the powers of the organized farmers to bring sufficient pressure to bear which will demand the removal of the present board of Grain Commissioners if necessary.

A. J. RUSSELL.

Rowley, Alta.

EDITORIAL

(Continued from page 3)

sible expense, and you demand of your elected members that they administer the affairs of the Province likewise.

"We have no reason to believe that a farmers' party that had to build, finance, and operate its own machinery, and fight its way to power, would be any more efficient and economical in administering the business of the Province than any other Government. What has been saved to the people of Alberta by the breaking down of wrong political machinery can never be accurately estimated, but it should be clear to every thinking man and woman in the Province that we cannot afford to take a chance by reverting to the old system."

* * *

A SOUND RULE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Rules and conventions laid down by Mr. Asquith, at the time of the Marconi scandal, are quoted by the *Manitoba Free Press* apropos the action of members of the Bracken Cabinet who bought stock in an electrical power enterprise at a time when the Cabinet was engaged in negotiations with the company concerned. These rules, to quote Mr. Asquith, are:

"Ministers ought not to enter into any transactions whereby their private pecuniary interests might, even conceivably, come into conflict with their public duty. . . . No Minister ought to allow or to put himself into a position to be tempted to use his official influence in a matter in regard to which he has an undisclosed private interest."

These are sound rules, which should be observed rigorously. They should apply, of course, not only to Ministers, but to all public servants, Deputies and others in positions of high responsibility. Any breach of the rules, if discovered should bring instant dismissal. In the case of one or more of the members of the Manitoba Government the purchase of stock may quite well have been innocent. But if so, it was inexcusable folly.

* * *

PUBLIC OWNERSHIP THE MAJOR ISSUE

Wherever private power corporations are allowed to establish themselves, they become important factors in the political life of the communities in which they operate. The nature and extent of the influence they exercise in the United States was recently made clear by evidence presented to the Federal Trade Commission at Washington. The manner in which they have sought to ingratiate themselves with the three major political parties of Manitoba, has been attested within the past few days by witnesses before the Royal Commission in Manitoba. The merits or demerits of the

Seven Sisters power deal from an economic standpoint are of relative unimportance as compared with the wider issue which has now been raised. As the *Toronto Globe* observed recently;

"All that can fairly be said at this stage of the proceedings is that wherever there are power rights to be grabbed, the big interests will be there to grab them. With priceless assets at stake it is difficult to eliminate attempts at bribery and corruption. In the United States the Insull interests have swallowed up power privilege after power privilege, leaving behind them a revolting trail—a trail fully described in an official investigation by the United States Senate. There are even more juicy plums to be picked in Canada. There is even greater need to forestall the possibility of scandals here."

That is one reason, the most urgent reason, the conclusive reason, why Alberta should make certain in the initial stages of development, that the ownership of electrical power resources of this Province and the distribution system shall not be left to private corporations. It is the reason why this issue transcends in importance every other public issue in Alberta today. It is the reason why the representatives of the organized farmers should be thoroughly conversant with every aspect of the problem, and should throw their full weight into the scale in favor of public ownership.

* * *

THE TRACKWAYS BILL

("Observer" in *Alberta Farmer*)

Advocates of that privately owned concrete highway to Banff and elsewhere will again attempt to get the Alberta Legislature to sanction organization of their company and place a seal of approval upon their proposed right of way and plan of operation. The matter was up at the last session and no favorable decision was reached. Personally I am hoping that no favorable decision will be reached this session, either. We have already a very fair government gravelled highway between Calgary and Banff. As yet this highway is not overcrowded, or would not be if it were properly policed. There is no doubt but that it does not lend itself to speeds of sixty to one hundred miles an hour with safety either to speeding drivers or those unfortunate enough to be on the road while the speeding is going on. However, there is no reasonable excuse for such fast driving on a public highway. Such speeds with automobiles should be confined to racing track performances. Even if the private highway were to come into existence, in self defence its proprietors would be compelled to establish speed limits for it and police it to enforce them. The average automobile owner doesn't want to speed unnecessarily nor will he willingly travel a road upon which speeding is permitted. Our existing Banff highway serves all reasonable travel needs of the present. It is a government owned highway, which in my judgment all through highways in the country should be. When the time comes for it to be improved or duplicated owing to increase in traffic, the work should be undertaken by the Government. Never should we go back to the ancient and discredited toll road system.

Policy of U.F.A. in Tariff Matters Clearly Defined by Annual Convention

Principle of World Free Trade Endorsed—General Policy of Substantial Tariff Reduction Policy in Meantime

Reaffirming by unanimous vote the tariff policy which has always been supported by the United Farmers of Alberta, the Annual Convention of the U.F.A., after discussion in which many delegates participated, adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the farmers of Alberta have to sell their produce in a world market and at the export price;

And whereas their purchases are made in a restricted and protected market;

Therefore be it resolved, that this Convention go on record in favor of the principle of world free trade and in the meantime support the general policy of substantial reductions in the tariff.

The subject was first raised in a resolution from Camrose Federal Constituency Association as follows:

Whereas, the U.F.A. has always opposed high tariffs and urged reductions, and

Whereas, this declared attitude on the part of the U.F.A. has been taken advantage of by the Government especially in regard to the Australian treaty where reductions were made on farm products as part of this treaty, which resulted in raising the price of raisins to the entire community, assisted our protected manufacturers to obtain Australian markets at the expense of Agriculture;

Therefore be it resolved, that we go on record as being opposed to this juggling with the tariff, which give appearance of reductions but which in reality means free trade in farm products and higher tariffs on manufactured articles, and

Be it further resolved, that this Association go on record as opposing any such reductions of tariff on a class basis; that if farm produce is to go on the free list, manufactured articles must be made free also, otherwise agriculture will have been penalized for its free trade principles, while its burden of taxation will have been increased.

In moving the adoption of this resolution H. McKenzie said that today both old political parties followed similar policies in tariff matters.

Carl Axelson remarked that no matter what the farmers might do to try to take advantage of the tariff for the benefit of their own industry, they could never do so as long as political power remained in the hands of plutocratic groups, who, even if they appeared to concede something to the farmers with one hand, would take it away with the other. The farmers could not profit, therefore, by going after tariff concessions.

Mr. Miller, of Floral, spoke at some length on the present situation as between the United States and Canada, and in favor of imperial free trade.

Federal Chairman Asks for Guidance

Robert Gardiner, M.P., declared, in reference to the Camrose proposal, "If you pass this resolution, as a Federal member I do not know how I should interpret it. I should like a lead to be given by this Convention. We should

like to know what you want us to do. This resolution may be interpreted in three or four different ways."

Mr. Gardiner added that there seemed to be a prevailing idea that the farmers could benefit from the tariff. No student of economics could justify that position since in general the primary products had to be sold on the basis of world competition. He wished to know whether the position stated a thousand times from U.F.A. platforms was to be upheld. Was a "milk and water" policy to be followed in future in tariff matters, on the basis of resolutions which might be variously interpreted according to circumstances? As a servant of the U.F.A. movement, he asked for specific directions.

On motion of C. Axelson, the Camrose resolution was then sent back for redrafting.

Beet Sugar Resolution and Tariff

A rather complicated situation arose while the committee engaged in redrafting was at work, as the next resolution, from Bow River Federal Constituency, asked reconsideration of the resolution passed a year ago, on the subject of the beet sugar industry, urging the Dominion Government "to adopt such measures to encourage and stabilize this industry as shall be alike beneficial to the growers of sugar beets, the manufacturers of the refined product therefrom, and the consumers of sugar in the Dominion of Canada." This resolution, the Bow River Convention had declared, seemed to be "a demand for tariff protection," in opposition to U.F.A. principles and policy as expressed from time to time.

Discussion brought forth an amendment by H. W. Leonard, to the effect that the beet sugar resolution "is not to be considered as a demand for protective tariff or a bonus higher than exists on sugar today." He could not understand what the industry wanted, under the terms of this vague resolution, unless it was tariff protection.

Ernest Bennion, explaining at some length the position of the industry, said the industry had not asked for increased tariff or for a bonus, that over a year ago in the Lethbridge Convention a proposal to ask for a bonus was defeated, but that another was passed which did not mention the word "tariff." Something like stability of conditions was desired, and these were affected by tariff changes.

After further discussion of beet sugar the resolution was laid on the table, pending consideration of the resolution on the tariff as redrafted, the resolution, that is, which is quoted at the beginning of this report.

Leonard Moves Free Trade Resolution

The free trade resolution was moved by Mr. Leonard, who said it was unnecessary for him to repeat what the U.F.A. had been saying for the past twenty years. Mr. MacFarquhar remarked that the question of the tariff and free trade was not fundamental to the solution of our problems, and it was time that it was recognized that without credit reform, no solution could be found.

Mr. Axelson: "I can't understand why, as farmers, we cannot go on record in favor of free trade. We believe in international co-operation. You cannot

base an international commonwealth on any other principle than freedom."

Following adoption of this resolution, discussion on the beet sugar resolution was resumed. Mr. Priestley stated that in passing this resolution, no thought of undermining the principles of the U.F.A. had been entertained. He gave some account of the situation faced by the industry at Raymond.

Mr. Garland did not wish to advocate nor oppose the resolution, but to bring before the delegates some facts. Sugar had been selling wholesale, in Montreal recently, at \$6.25 per cwt., less 5 per cent; if there were no tariff, however, the wholesaler would have to pay only \$3.75 or \$4, so that because of the tariff consumers were paying about \$1.89 per cwt. additional. As a result of the existing tariff, the consuming public of Canada were paying for a necessity of life an amount equal to the entire annual wage bill of the sugar beet industry, and \$800,000 more.

Mr. Johansen pointed out that when the Knight sugar company was operating, sugar was cheaper in Alberta than in Saskatchewan or British Columbia, and when that concern closed down, Alberta lost its advantage. When the plant reopened, sugar was again cheaper here.

Mr. Bennion said he was agreeable to Mr. Leonard's amendment. Mr. McCune, of Irricana, declared that the beet sugar produced in the southern factory was undoubtedly of good quality. Carl Antonson declared opposition to any resolution which might appear to favor a tariff, as even the amendment might do, although it asked that the tariff should not be "higher."

Speakman Gives Views

"We must be consistent enough not to try to travel both ways at the same time," declared Alfred Speakman, M.P. It seemed as though some people were in favor of tariff reduction "except in the cases of beets, butter, eggs—everything except farm products in general." He supported a demand, previously made by Mr. Garland, for an exact definition of the meaning of the word "encourage" as used in the resolution. Mr. Speakman said he was opposed only to "dumping," that is to say, the selling of a product by a foreign competitor at below cost, for the purpose of putting an enterprise out of business.

The amendment was then voted on and lost.

Mr. Bennion was given the privilege of speaking for the purpose of defining the word "encourage." He described the difficulties confronting an industry, in the profits of which 650 producers shared, due to efforts, which were felt to be deliberate, to destroy it by certain foreign vested interests which sought to establish a monopoly.

On the vote being taken, the resolution was lost by a large majority.

EDMONTON SPRING SHOW

Entries for the Edmonton Spring Show close on March 22nd, and for the Bull Sale on March 6th. The Show will be held April 9th to 13th, and there is a prize list of \$13,700, with many special added prizes.

Some Features of the Early Days of the Session at Ottawa

Debate on Address Very Brief—House Rejects Proposal to Reconsider Canada's Ban on Titles—Parliament and Bank Mergers

By L. H. JELLIFF, M.P.

A series of articles dealing with affairs in the Ottawa Parliament will be contributed to this periodical by U.F.A. members of the House of Commons during the session. The first, by the member for Lethbridge, is printed on this page. The next, by D. M. Kennedy, U.F.A. member for Peace River, will appear on March 15th.

Mr. Jelliff's article follows:

The third session of the sixteenth Parliament of Canada opened with the usual interesting and attractive ceremonies on the 7th of February.

The speech from the throne was read by His Excellency, the Governor-General, in the Senate Chamber, before a large and brilliant assembly, representative of the official and social life of the country and the capital, augmented by representatives from foreign states, which have established embassies here for the promotion of international intercourse and trade relationships. The speech was notable for its simplicity and brevity. No attempt at the grandiose was displayed therein. It consisted of a very modest and plain recital of the results of the various activities of the country during the year in commercial, industrial and agricultural lines, which were described as reflecting "unprecedented prosperity" with which "deep satisfaction" was expressed, and forecast a few items of legislation to be brought forward by the Government at this session. No definite policy was announced along financial or fiscal lines. There was no reference to the public debt or any proposed action as regards the tariff or the income tax.

There was accordingly little occasion either directly or indirectly for discussion as to the policy of the Government upon matters hitherto regarded as of major importance.

Sudden Conclusion

It is not surprising, therefore, that after the usual complimentary speeches, made by the newly elected members, J. M. Cayley, M.P. for South Oxford, and C. E. Ferland, M.P. of Joliette, moving and seconding a motion for an address to His Excellency, the Governor General, in reply to the speech from the throne, followed by speeches from the leader of the opposition, the Honorable R. B. Bennett; the Prime Minister, the Right Honorable W. L. Mackenzie King, and Mr. Gardiner, M.P., the debate came to a sudden conclusion, and the motion was adopted without amendment.

As a matter of fact, there was a distinct feeling of relief apparent among the members of the House that they were not to be afflicted with the lengthy discussions, valuable though they may be, which have characterized these proceedings for several years past, and that they were free to give attention to the concrete legislation proposed for the session.

There is the further fact that abundant opportunity will be afforded in the discussions on the budget. Much of the matter which is generally contributed in the debates on the speech from the throne is repeated in discussing the budget, and

by eliminating these at the initial stage, such repetition is avoided with great saving of the time of the House.

Frown Upon Titles Resolution

In the few days during which the House has been in session, rapid progress has been made. Among the resolutions brought forward, there were several which evoked interesting discussions. One by Mr. C. H. Cahan, Member for St. Lawrence-St. George, asked the appointment of a special committee to investigate and report upon the advisability of qualifying or amending or rescinding the address to His Majesty, the King, adopted by the House in 1919, requesting that His Majesty refrain thereafter from conferring any title of honor or titular distinction upon any of his subjects domiciled or usually resident in Canada. It was alleged by Mr. Cahan that since the address of 1919, honors and distinctions had been conferred upon British subjects resident in Canada by foreign powers, which the British Sovereign was barred by virtue of this address from conferring, and that there were certain services at least which deserve and might properly receive recognition by the Crown. The resolution was vigorously debated, but evidently the proposal did not at all suit the temper of the House, and it was finally rejected by a vote of 114 to 60.

Bank Mergers

Another interesting and important debate took place on the motion for second reading of a bill introduced by T. L. Church, of Toronto, North-East, to amend the Bank Act. The purport of the bill was that the consent of Parliament should be obtained before any agreement for bank mergers should be approved. At the present time, the Governor-in-Council, through the Minister of Finance, must give consent to such agreements.

The case of the merger of the Standard Bank with the Canadian Bank of Commerce was made the subject of special comment in the discussion of this motion, as well as many mergers which preceded it. The Minister of Finance, Mr. Robb, took advantage of the opportunity to state his reasons for sanctioning the recent merger, urging that such action on his part was induced primarily by the necessity of protecting the interests of depositors. He contended that the requiring of the consent of Parliament to proposed mergers would involve publicity and delay which would prove disastrous.

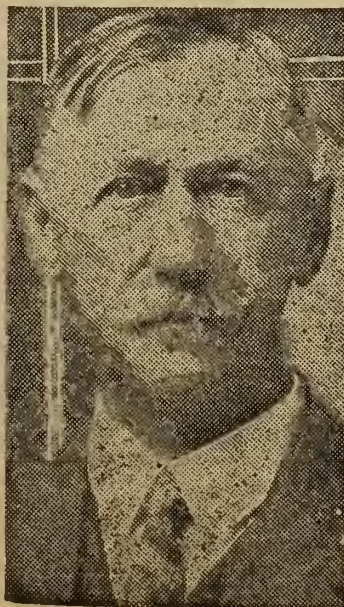
Is There Inherent Weakness?

While the House was not disposed to question the wisdom of the Minister in the action taken by him as regards the Standard Bank case, yet the discussion far from dissipated the apprehension due to so many mergers having taken place in recent years, materially reducing the number of Canadian banks and increasing the power and credit control of the few which have survived these processes. As to the ultimate result there is a natural anxiety as to where and when this will end, and its effect on the progress and development of the industrial, commercial and agricultural interests of the country. The question naturally arises as to whether there is an inherent weakness in our banking system which has caused the retirement of so large a number of line banks, and which is capable of correction by appropriate measures, or whether these amalgamations are the result of a natural evolution, or of other influences which can and should be fully investigated.

To some minds, it is suggested that the retiring banks may not have been so much in a position of inability to continue, as that they were being subjected to pressure or to inducements from larger institutions, who were ambitious for a rapid and unnatural growth, and employed this method of accentuating their own progress.

The debate failed to bring out constructive suggestions as to the remedy for this situation. Regardless of the vote of the House, which was adverse to the adoption of this bill, the subject is one of vital interest to the country, and will, doubtless, come before the House in other forms in the near future, and be placed before the Banking Committee for a thorough study.

There are other matters of interest which have come up since the House opened, but in order not to transgress upon the space allowed for correspondence of this nature, I shall leave them to some of my colleagues for future comment.



L. H. JELLIFF, M.P.

The Porcupine gold area in the District of Cochrane, Northern Ontario, occupies first rank among the gold producing areas in Canada.

At the next World's Poultry Congress to be held at the Crystal Palace, London, England, in July, 1930, it is anticipated that Canada will exhibit about 1,000 live birds. In addition the Dominion will have an educational exhibit.

News from Alberta Wheat Pool Head Office

Information for Members and Locals Issued by the Publicity Department of the Alberta Wheat Pool.

Alberta Wheat Pool Act, 1929

To Provide Legal Machinery to Enable Pool to Operate as Intended by Members

"The Alberta Wheat Pool Act 1929" was introduced into the Legislative Assembly of the Province on February 25th. The purpose of this act is to provide adequate legal machinery in order that the Wheat Pool may operate in the manner intended by its members. The provisions of the bill contain the requirements of the Pool as ascertained after five years of operation.

The first Wheat Pool Act was drawn up in anticipation of what the Pool's requirements would be. At that time the founders were without experience in the business of operating a Wheat Pool and the legal talent they secured were in the same boat. There never had been a Wheat Pool operated before in Canada. There was no precedent for a guide. So a great deal of prospective requirements had to be guessed at, and actual experience has demonstrated that changes are necessary. Hence this new act.

The first portion of the bill deals with the powers of the organization as a company and contains many sections clarifying the Pool's power. Section 5 is of interest in that it provides that any person that has signed a marketing agreement which the Pool has accepted may now become a member of the Pool. At present no one can become a member of the Pool unless grain is produced by or for him.

Voting Powers

Voting powers of members are dealt with in several subsequent sections. The feature of these provisions is that they are designed to keep the voting powers vested in those who are from time to time actually delivering their wheat to the Pool to the end that the delegates who run the business of the Pool will represent the people whose business the Pool is then handling.

The right to recall any delegate is made clear. Power is also given to refer any matter to the vote of the members.

Section 22 says that all Pool members' grain "shall be sold in the manner provided by his contract notwithstanding that the member may have given security on the grain or that it has been seized under any process of law by a creditor of the member."

Sections 23, 24, 25 and 26 are new. These sections are designed to set at rest doubts which have been raised as to whether the deduction and investment of elevator reserve has been in technical compliance with the wording of the contract which has been alleged to have been confusing.

The most important section in the bill is section 27. This section is designed to give a flexibility to the Pool's operation which the strict letter of the contract now prevents. It is not new in theory, but is the rule that ordinarily applies to the activity of any company, namely, that of majority rule. The section reads as follows:

Delegates' Responsibility

"The delegates may, at a meeting of which notice has been given specifying the nature of the business to be considered, ratify and validate any acts, reso-

lutions, payments, distribution of monies among members and any other matters heretofore or hereafter done or dealt with by the delegates, Directors, agents or employees of the Pool or Alberta Pool Elevators, Limited, notwithstanding that such acts, resolutions, payments, distribution of monies and other matters are at variance, contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of any marketing or other agreement entered into between a member and the Pool, and such ratification and validation shall be binding on each member or past member of the Pool, and all acts, resolutions, payments, distribution of monies and other matters so ratified and validated shall be deemed to have been as lawfully and validly done as if the same had been expressly authorized by such agreement."

This section enables the Pool to carry out activities for the benefit of its members notwithstanding that these things may not be in accordance with the strict letter of the contract although they may be designed to effect the main purpose of that contract, namely, to handle members' grain in the way that will bring the best return to the member for his grain. No such departure can, however, be made unless the delegates elected by the members approve of that departure.

Express provision is contained saving the rights of Harold William Keay from the operation of section 27. If Mr. Keay has the rights which he asserted in an action brought by him against the Pool,

then this section will not prevent him from obtaining the remedies for his claims to which he is by law entitled.

Arbitration Provided

Section 29 provides that disputes between a member and the Pool must be settled by arbitration. A proviso to this section reserves to the Pool the right to bring action against a member under his marketing contract. This right is reserved to the Pool in order to enable it to exercise the remedy given to it in the contract for the purpose of putting it in a position to compel delivery of members' grain by short speedy process. The section is not new as it was contained in the original bylaws of the Pool which were ratified by the Legislature.

Section 30 provides that "No action or other proceedings respecting any matter shall be brought against the Pool by any person who is or has been a member of the corporation unless it is commenced within two months after the date of any meeting of the delegates at which the act or omission in question has been ratified."

Section 32 provides that the Directors of the Pool may lay down the conditions in and under which a member may assign the proceeds of the sale of his crop and states that until such provisions are laid down by the Directors no assignment shall be binding on the Pool unless it is delivered to the office of the Pool accompanied by the member's delivery checking coupons.

This bill was submitted to the Wheat Pool delegates, 69 of the 70 being present. It was discussed clause by clause and was adopted unanimously.

Lucid Explanation of Need for New Wheat Pool Bill

Member for Claresholm Moves Second Reading in Alberta Legislature — Aim Is That Members "Shall Be Able to Conduct Own Business in Own Way"

G. B. Walker, M.L.A., for Claresholm, moved the second reading of "The Alberta Wheat Pool Bill 1929" in the Legislature on Monday, February 25th. Mr. Walker summarized the necessity for the bill in a brief address, which is as follows:

In moving the second reading of this bill it will be my purpose to endeavor as best I can to show just why the Legislature is being asked at this time to consider this new Bill relating to the Wheat Pool.

I hope to point out that in the light of five years of operation of the organization commonly known as the Alberta Wheat Pool, certain weaknesses with respect to the technical structure of the organization have developed. The aim of the Bill now before the house for consideration is to set out in certain and very definite terms legislation allowing this group of farmers, organized on co-operative lines, to transact their own business in their own way. In other words, that there shall be no doubt whatsoever as to the intent and purpose of this group of 40,000

members who are banded together to market their grain to the ultimate advantage of each individual comprising that co-operative group.

It would most certainly have been expecting a great deal that this organization should have been constituted in every detail in a manner which foresaw every condition that could possibly arise in connection with its operation through the years to come. Particularly is this the case when we consider:

FIRST: That this was a new venture. No exactly similar organization existed as a pattern for the incorporation.

SECOND: The very nature of the business being undertaken necessitated its being carried on under exceedingly variable and unstable conditions from year to year. The uncertainty surrounding grain production and grain marketing in this or any country is only too well known to the members of this house.

Amazing Efficiency

When we consider the organization that had to be brought into existence to successfully handle 277,818,641 bushels

of wheat for close to 40,000 farmers situated throughout the length and breadth of this Province and turn back to these individuals a sum approximating \$278,000,000; to accomplish this in the short space of time since its inception and that too during seasons of almost unprecedented climate and marketing conditions, surely this house must agree that the surprising part of the whole operation is, not that certain weaknesses have developed in connection therewith, but to me the amazing thing is, that the whole enterprise has been so free from defects and has operated in such an efficient and practical manner.

As pointed out in the bill, the incorporation of the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., took place in 1923 under the Co-operative Association Act, and later this incorporation, together with the by-laws and agreements, were ratified by an act of this Legislature, which is now incorporated in the statutes of 1924.

Shorter and Simpler Name

The first thing which the bill now before the house proposes is the change of name from the Alberta Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., to the shorter and more simple name of the Alberta Wheat Pool. This more familiar and shorter title is accordingly more desirable for the purposes of the organization.

For the purpose of explanation of the bill, may I refer briefly to the plan of organization of the Wheat Pool, all of which I am sure most members are fairly familiar with now. According to the plan the Province is divided into districts and each district into sub-districts. At present, there are seven large districts and each is sub-divided into 10 small districts, making a total of 70 sub-districts in the Province. The Pool members of each sub-district elect annually one delegate, giving ten delegates to each district. These ten delegates are vested with power to elect a Director for each large district, who shall with the other Directors so elected constitute the Board of Directors of the Pool. The Board is answerable to the delegates who, in turn, are answerable to the members, so that the members have a continuous check on the management of the Pool affairs. The further feature of the recall of delegates and Directors is a double check which the members have on their management.

Majority Rule

Now, because of the variable and unstable conditions under which the Pool must operate and to which I have already referred, it can clearly be seen that no definite set of regulations can be laid down which will completely anticipate every condition which may arise in the operation of the Pool. This condition must be met, and for this purpose the bill in question proposes to give the authority to the delegates to deal with such special conditions as may arise and to settle them with the view always to the object for which the Pool came into existence. In other words, in all of these matters the members must be subject to the majority rule.

Farm Storage

As a specific instance of this, the Board felt that because of the inadequacy of the Pool facilities to handle the volume of the Pool wheat during the usual marketing period in the fall and realizing that volume of wheat is essential to the success of the Pool operations the Board then conceived the idea of farm storage and encouragement thereof by certain payment for storage of grain held by members on the farm.

The power to deal with this under the existing act might be doubtful, but the new Bill in granting more elastic powers enables the Board at the sanction of the delegates to settle definitely upon a policy of farm storage as being definitely beneficial to the membership of the Pool.

Arbitration for All Disputes

Not the least feature of importance in this bill is the one which clearly sets out that all disputes between the Pool and its members arising out of the contract shall be settled by arbitration. The application of the principle of arbitration to such organizations is no new principle and in this case is clearly advantageous not only to the membership collectively, but individually as well. Individual members would by means of arbitration be able to secure redress in any dispute arising, even though such member might not be financially strong to secure settlement through the courts.

Then, too, (inasmuch as most disputes are likely to call for an accounting) from the standpoint of Pool operations the arbitration principle safeguards the Pool against any disclosure of information at a time when such examination of discovery would contribute valuable information to those seeking to use it against the operation of the Pool.

The one specific instance set out where the Pool has the right to proceed against the member through the courts for non-delivery of grain is resorted to because the nature of the Pool requires that it must secure volume. Damages are not compensation for non-delivery. Specific performance is required in order to ensure a continuance of volume. This is also set out in the contract.

Elevator and Commercial Reserve

One of the important features of the bill is in respect to the Elevator and Commercial Reserves. These reserves as all members know are deductions made from the proceeds of the members' wheat. In the case of the Elevator Reserve it is made expressly for the purposes of elevator construction and amounts to not more than 2c per bushel which has been deducted since 1924 and amounts in the aggregate to the sum of \$3,650,000.

This bill provides that these reserves shall be held by the Pool in trust for the members in the name of the Pool.

There are two very definite reasons why these reserves should be held in trust by the Pool:

FIRST: It would be wholly impracticable for the Pool to issue shares for these varying amounts (some of which are very small) in the individual names of 40,000 members scattered throughout the Province; particularly when new sums are being added annually to this reserve.

SECOND: Should the stock of the Elevator Company be registered in the name of each individual member it would then be possible for interests other than the Pool farmers to secure this stock to the extent possibly of gaining control of the company and in so doing defeat the very purpose for which the Pool came into being. It must seem wholly practical to have this reserve held in the name of the Pool. No action of the Pool can possibly deprive any member of his right in these reserves.

The commercial reserve is the only deduction made for the purposes of the Pool and varies from year to year, but must not exceed 1 per cent of the gross proceeds. The total of this reserve amounts to \$1,750,000 Interest at the

rate of 6 per cent per annum is paid on these reserves, and each member is annually furnished with a statement of the amount which has been deducted from his proceeds each year.

In a very crude way I have tried to cover some of the more important principles of this bill. Such details as I have failed to touch upon can very properly be dealt with in a committee of the whole house.

May I just repeat again that the whole aim of the bill is that this co-operative body known as the Wheat Pool shall be able to conduct their own business in their own way and collectively accomplish the most for the separate individuals by insuring that no interference on technical grounds shall defeat this object.

REPLIES TO U.S. NEWSPAPER

C. Oscar Johnson, of Scandia, Alta., noticed the following item in a newspaper from his home town, Hershay, Neb., U.S.A. This item was taken from the *Journal-Stockman*, which is apparently a Chicago publication:

"Apparently the Canadian Wheat Pools are not working as satisfactorily as promoters would have us believe. According to the *Co-operative Manager and Farmer*, two Pools in Western Canada are being sued for \$2,500 by a farmer because the proceeds of the sale of his wheat were withheld over a four year period in which he was a member of the Pool. The suit brings to light some of the financial methods of the Canadian Pool such as lending their funds to elevator concerns and mixing the proceeds of the sale of grain of different grades."

Mr. Johnson, realizing the untruthfulness of the item, took occasion to reply as follows:

"I have just read an article in your paper quoted from the *Journal-Stockman* to the effect that Canadian Co-operative Wheat Pools are not working satisfactorily.

"Articles of this kind can have no other purpose in view than to create distrust among the rural population.

"The lawsuits instituted against the Alberta and Saskatchewan Wheat Pools because of the distribution of excess earnings of Pool elevators on a patronage basis are the result of misapprehension of the true principle of co-operation together with possible encouragement by interests opposed to the Wheat Pool movement. I am a member of the Alberta Wheat Pool and am more than satisfied with the results we have had, as are 98 per cent of the farmers of this community. We have found that it is the greatest protection to a farmer and his family and is the best means of advancing agriculture. The Wheat Pool has stabilized the grain market and has lessened disastrous speculation which has benefitted all wheat growers in Canada.

"The Wheat Pool elevators system owned and operated by the farmers on a non-profit basis has given the farmers fair and just service and to me it seems someone is afraid you people in Nebraska are going to find it out."

The Dominion Government will probably loan ten million dollars to the Vancouver Harbor Commission for further development of terminal facilities at that port. It is understood that an additional four to five million bushels grain storage capacity will be added to the Harbor Board's elevators No. 1 and No. 2.

The Selling Policy of the Canadian Wheat Pool: How the Farmer Benefits

By HARALD S. PATTON, Ph.D., University of Cincinnati

NOTE: This is the second of two articles on the Canadian Wheat Pool. The first appeared in the issue of January 15th.

As the grower makes delivery to his Provincial Pool, the Pool forwards the grain to the terminals, where it is turned over to the Central Selling Agency. Although this body has its seats on the Winnipeg and Vancouver Grain Exchanges, where it makes sales in the same manner as do other members, its policy has been to sell as much of its holdings as possible directly to Eastern millers and foreign millers.

Connections in 15 Countries

To this end twenty-seven agency connections have been established with wheat importing houses in fifteen countries in four continents. An overseas office for supervising its European business has been recently established at London, where the Pool has acquired membership in the London Corn Trade Association. During the last three years the proportion of direct sales has been about 75 per cent. Its policy is to make sales on the Winnipeg Exchange only when prices there are at least as high as it might realize by selling directly in final markets. Private exporters are interested in buying wheat at as wide spreads as possible below world prices. Larger operators, indeed, may resort at times to more or less concerted short selling with a view to temporarily depressing Winnipeg prices, on which farmers' returns are directly based. The Pool, on the other hand, does not have to buy on the Exchange, and by selling on it only the smaller part of its holdings, and then only when the market is favorable, it tends to keep prices there both more stable and closer to world values. In so doing it benefits, of course, non-pool farmers as well as its own members.

Controlling, as it does, more than half the wheat reaching Canadian primary markets, the Pool is in a position to realize appreciable savings in its unit marketing costs. For the last two years the overhead expenses of the Central have averaged only a fifth of a cent per bushel handled. The volume of its direct shipments, moreover, permits it to charter shipping tonnage on somewhat more advantageous terms than smaller exporters can obtain. For the purpose of chartering space and supervising loading and insuring cargoes, the Pool maintains offices at the head of the Lakes, and at Vancouver, Montreal and New York. In the marketing of the 1926 crop it made shipments through sixty ports to twenty-four different countries.

Gains Through Control of Wheat Movement

Since the Canadian Pool cannot exercise any control over the volume of wheat production, and since it must sell whatever supply is delivered by its members in competition with the surplus wheat crops of the world, it is not in a position to determine the ultimate price, as is shown by the marked decline in wheat quotations within the past few months. What it can do, however, is to adjust its day-to-day sales to demand conditions, based on the fullest attainable market information; and to secure for its mem-

bers an average participation in the actual prices obtainable in the final markets. Possessing an assured supply, without having to purchase it outright or hedge its deliveries, it is in a position to hold off the market when prices are temporarily weak, and to sell freely when demand is stronger.

That the Pool Selling Agency has exercised an appreciable stabilizing influence, and that it has shown sound judgment in distributing its sales, in regard both to time and place, has been admitted by the grain trade itself. Thus *The London Grain, Seed and Oil Reporter* commented last year:

"The wonder is that prices have been maintained as well as they have. The fact is that the power of the Pools to hold up wheat is hardly realized as yet, but undoubtedly they have managed to keep the price firmer than the statistical position seems to warrant."

Secretary Jardine, who desires to see American wheat growers similarly organized, stated in an address at Kansas City last year:

"Our own grain men won't admit it, but I am convinced that the advantage Canada has gained is due to the fact that every day and every hour they control and direct movement of wheat in a way that brings greater returns to producers than in the United States."

Is Changing the Farmer's Financing

The third contrast between Pool marketing and the regular system lies in the method by which the farmer's returns are distributed. As already noted, a scheduled initial payment is made at the time of delivery and a participation certificate issued to the grower. As the Central gradually disposes of its holdings it is able to repay its bank borrowings and to accumulate balances for further payments to members.

With a view to meeting the farmer's needs for ready cash, the policy has been followed of making a second payment just before seeding time.

The third distribution is released in July, when the approach of harvest calls for further working funds. Toward the end of October, by which time the Central has disposed of most of its previous crop holdings, a final settlement is made, based on the returns actually realized from the sale of each grade. Each Provincial Pool receives from the Central its pro-rata share of the sales receipts and redistributes them to its members, after deducting the ascertained per bushel operating costs and the amounts to be retained as elevator and commercial reserves.

The Pool method of payment is proving of special advantage to smaller producers, who have found it necessary to give crop liens in favor of creditors and who are compelled immediately after threshing to sell "on street" at prices which may show spreads of from 5 to 15 cents below the "track" prices which carload shippers may command. Forced selling at seasonally depressed local prices, subject to creditors' claims, generally leaves such scanty returns in the hands of the grower that by spring he finds himself under the necessity of seeking new credit against the speculative security of his next crop.

As an illustration of how the new system

of distribution, in spite of reducing the farmer's immediate cash receipts, may improve his financial position, the case may be cited of a Manitoba member who had threshed some very low grade wheat, and who telephoned the Pool office that he would have to break his contract, as the initial net Pool payment of 40 cents a bushel of such grade was all needed for immediate expenses. At the same time he had a payment to make to a mortgage company which he could meet by selling his wheat to the local elevator which would give him 60 cents cash. Through the Pool office an arrangement was made with the mortgage company whereby the latter agreed to take over the farmer's participation receipt and credit future payments thereon against his account. The result was that the grower received through the Pool payments aggregating 85 cents a bushel, whereas if he had sold for cash in the Fall he would have realized only 60 cents.

Farmers' creditors are showing an increasing disposition to accept assignments of growers' certificates instead of pressing for threshing-time liquidation. It is being realized that such arrangement involves no impairment of security, while at the same time it means that the debt-paying and purchasing power of the grower is generally increased. The seeding and harvest time distributions are also serving to reduce appreciably the volume of farmers' bank borrowing. Instead of borrowing against the coming crop, he is coming to finance on the deferred proceeds of the previous crop. The effect of this change on the farmers' morale is incalculable, and it has done much to commend the Pool system to Canadian business men in general.

Pool's Unique Elevator System

One of the most spectacular achievements of the Canadian Wheat Pools has been their building up of the world's largest unified elevator system within the space of less than three years. At the outset the Pools were entirely dependent on handling contracts with the co-operative and private line elevator companies. Experience early demonstrated, however, the desirability of acquiring their own country as well as terminal elevators. One of the impelling considerations was the advantage of having permanent representatives at local shipping points, in the form of Pool elevator operators who could deal directly with members, and look after both their personal interests and those of the Pool headquarters in the way that the agents of contracting, and at the same time, competing companies could not be expected to do. It was also felt that a system of Pool elevators would permit a better controlled flow of Pool grain to terminals, and increase growers' net returns by reducing handling costs.

Acting on these considerations, the Pools began in 1925 to build or buy elevators at points not served by either the Saskatchewan "Co-op." or the United Grain Growers. Extended negotiations were carried on at this time between the Pools and the farmers' companies for the acquisition of the elevator facilities of the latter, with a view to establishing one unified, farmer-owned grain handling and marketing system. An agreement was finally reached for the sale of the 451

country elevators and the four big terminals of the "Co-op." to the Saskatchewan Pool at an arbitrated price of \$11,059,310. A joint offer of the three Pools to purchase the elevator system of the U.G.G. was rejected, however, by the shareholders of the latter, primarily on the ground that it was desirable to preserve its facilities for the use of farmers who did not see fit to sign Pool contracts, as well as for members.

Meanwhile the Pools have been extending their system until at the end of 1927 they had 937 country elevators in operation in the three Provinces, equivalent to nearly one-half of all those licensed in Western Canada. Some two hundred more are now in process of being added. At the head of the Lakes, at Buffalo and on the Pacific coast the Pools now control eleven terminal elevators having a combined capacity of 42,500,000 bushels.

The financing of this immense program of elevator acquisition, involving an investment of nearly \$20,000,000, has been accomplished without any Government loans or bond issues. It has been financed entirely by the unique method of deducting a maximum of two cents a bushel on elevator reserve account from each member's final annual payment. The cumulative magnitude of these seemingly minute deductions has been a revelation in co-operative finance. While the system reduces the member's direct cash returns from his crop, it constitutes a form of contractual investment, since he is allowed 6 per cent interest on the amount of his elevator reserve deductions, payable out of elevator revenue.

Thus the growers' investment interest rises automatically and proportionately to the amount of Pool deliveries. Not only is all the interest paid on account of capital invested in Pool elevators thus distributed to farmers, but the net earnings of these elevators also accrue to members on a patronage dividend basis. For the year 1926-27 the surplus earnings of the Saskatchewan Pool country and terminal elevators amounted to \$1,375,000 equivalent to a rebate of 1½ cents a bushel on all grain delivered. The Pool system thus insures that its members' grain will be handled, as well as sold, at cost, while at the same time making each grower a small-scale capitalist through collective ownership of elevator facilities.

Future of the Canadian Pool

The Canadian Wheat Pool may safely be said to have passed the experimental stage. The initial difficulties and problems of organization, selection of personnel, financing and accounting have been surmounted without any complete precedent to follow, and yet with remarkable freedom from miscalculation and errors of judgment. While the original contract period expires at the end of the present crop year, the volume of renewals already received for the 1928-32 period serves to assure continuity of operations under highly favorable conditions.

Expectations held in certain quarters of the Pool's power to control prices have not been realized, it is true, and there are many farmers who prefer to retain their individual freedom of marketing rather than commit themselves to Pool contracts. Three out of five prairie grain growers, however, are acting on the condition that while the Pool cannot of itself create prosperity, it does insure that its members can count on receiving all that consumers will pay for their product, less the cost of getting it to market.

They also experience a wholesome pride

in having built up, entirely by their own efforts and resources, a grain marketing organization and equipment which has attained a dominant position in probably the most highly competitive trade in the world. The prairie farmer is achieving the consciousness of being a business man and an investor, and not merely a toiler of the fields, dependent on the local middleman. He may still stoop over his plow, but when he hauls his grain to his Pool elevator his head is carried just a little higher than in pre-Pool days.

PLANS FOR STORING GRAIN

Agricultural Co-operation (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture).—Tanks for storing grain on farms of the Northwest, are a part of the 1929 program of the Farmers' Union Terminal Association, St. Paul, Minn. These tanks of about 1,500 bushels capacity will be sold to the farmers and placed on all farms. When filled with wheat, durum or flax, they will be sealed and insured, after which the association hopes to be able to make loans on the grain to the extent of 70 per cent of current market value, at a low rate of interest.

Pool Elevator Expansion

First Tentative List Provides for Fifty-Six Additional Country Houses

A tentative list of points at which the Alberta Wheat Pool will build or buy elevators during the coming season is subjoined. The total number of points is fifty-six, but the list, it was pointed out, is by no means a final one.

The Alberta Pool has now 318 elevators located at country points, and the additions will bring the total number up to 374. The list may be enlarged considerably as the season develops, but the increase will depend upon various factors.

The number of elevators which will be built and the number purchased will depend on the prices asked by elevator companies for elevators they are willing to sell, and also on the price of lumber.

Whenever the Pool decides to go into a new point it is usual for the organization to make an offer to purchase if there is an elevator there which will meet the requirements. In this way the Pool has acquired a considerable number of houses and avoided a wasteful duplication.

A number of points are under consideration for a second Pool house because of extraordinary large deliveries of Pool wheat, but a definite decision as to these has not as yet been reached.

The points at which the Pool will build or buy elevators are: Airdrie, Acheson, Alix, Athabasca, Balzac, Barnwell, Bardo, Bittern Lake, Bott, Boyle, Brooks, Buoyant, Chigwell, Coalhurst, Colinton, Conrich, Cowley, Clandonald, Delacour, DeWinton, Diamond City, Dimsdale, Fahler, Grainger, Hay Lakes, Haynes, Hazeldene, Hilliard, Leahurst, Lloydminster, Lousana, Lyalta, Midnapore, Morinville, Millicent, Nevis, Oberlin, Pibroch, Raley, Rosebud, Smoky Lake, Spruce Grove, St. Albert, Lacombe, Stobart, Sabine, Two Hills, Villeneuve, Vilna, Vimy, Warspite, Waskatenau, Wayne, Whitelaw, Spring Coulee, Strangmuir.

A Vital Matter --- the Question of Good Seed

The question of good seed is a vital matter and the following talk on this subject was recently delivered over the radio by the Alberta Wheat Pool:

Once again I would draw attention to the extreme importance of seeding clean, virile grain this Spring. The Wheat Pool is very much interested in the improving of the grain product of its members' farms and believes that improved seed is the best means of securing improved wheat crops.

From the results of surveys of actual seedings made by experts it would seem that the greater percentage of farmers yearly are sowing seed of very, very poor quality and not properly cleaned. The result of this haphazard and careless seeding is evident in the harvest when four to five hundred different grades are delivered and from the total Western Canadian crop in 1927 dockage of 367,337,280 lbs. was taken at the various terminals.

Changes Brought by Passing Years

It is common knowledge that Canadian wheat gained its world popularity because of its strength. In earlier times the virgin prairie soil produced a high quality grain that was sought after eagerly. The passing years have brought changes. Our wheat area has been tremendously

enlarged and new varieties have been introduced in order to cope with climatical conditions. Indifferent seed has been a mixing of strains until true-to-type varieties are the exception rather than the rule. In one wheat field alone last year fifteen different varieties of wheat were found.

In the industrial world there is a constant striving to improve products. The car you buy this year is an immense improvement on the auto produced five years ago. The farm machinery is being improved every year. Always the aim is to get out a better article. Farm producers are in a position somewhat similar to the manufacturers and they cannot afford to lower the standard of their product. That is one of the big objections to mixing grain in terminal elevators. But if the grain from the farms was of fewer varieties and grown from true-to-type seed there would not be anything like four or five hundred grades delivered to be mixed.

To Test for Germination

Wheat producers can do a tremendous lot to improve conditions with little extra expense and trouble. Anyone can test grain for germination. Take two flower pots or shallow boxes full of earth and seed 200 kernels in each, placing both in a window with southern exposure. Keep well watered and see what comes up.

in six and fourteen days. If there is less than 85 per cent of germination you will have to sow more seed per acre or get a new seed supply. This test will give you a fair idea of what will happen to your seed once it is planted in the ground. You will be able to tell whether it comes up together or in a patchy manner. Late shoots may result in a supply of green kernels which, as you well know, plays havoc with grades. Test your seed for germination and you will have a fair picture of what it will do under growing conditions. There was a lot of frosted wheat from the 1928 crop and badly frosted wheat germinates slowly and with great irregularity under field conditions.

If you decide you will require seed grain from an outside source, there are various ways in which this can be done. If you write to G. M. Stewart, Government Seed Branch, Calgary, he will be glad to advise and assist you. He knows sources of recommended grain seed. If you decide to purchase from the Alberta Seed Growers' Association at Edmonton, address your application to W. J. Stephen, Secretary, Alberta Seed Growers Association, Department of Agriculture, Edmonton. You can buy at the following prices for Marquis wheat:

Second generation No. 1....\$2.60 bushel
 Second generation, No. 2.... 2.40 bushel
 Second generation, No. 3... 2.00 bushel
 Third generation, No. 1..... 2.20 bushel
 Third generation, No. 2..... 2.00 bushel
 Third generation, No. 3..... 1.75 bushel

Third generation No. 3 at \$1.75 will give you excellent cleaned and tested seed with germination and purity guaranteed.

Pool Elevators have a quantity of wheat of good appearance which may be obtained for seed by Pool members. This is not guaranteed, as the organization has not facilities at present to handle, clean and test wheat for seed.

The seed question is one of first importance and the Alberta Wheat Pool recommends that producers give it serious consideration. It is acknowledged that there are many who simply cannot afford to buy expensive seed, but every producer can take some step to improve the grain he expects to plant.

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 This is the time of year when your loyalty to the Wheat Pool counts most.

 The *Western Producer* (Saskatoon) is conducting a debate in its columns for and against a compulsory 100 per cent Wheat Pool in Western Canada.

 From the *Wheat Kernels' Bulletin*: The Construction Department got along distance call from Irma to the effect that her air dump had gone wrong and the pressure was going through the head. If you know anything about elevators, you won't get the wrong impression.

Field Service Notes

BY J. P. WATSON

If anyone thinks the Pool spirit is decadent at local points, all that one has to do is to look at the slate of nominations for G-2 in the present by-election. "Ten little picanninies" aspire for the honor of being chosen to guide the destinies of "our own" business. This is a healthy sign, and the fieldman, who has been at many meetings in this area, reports an intense interest on the part of the members of this sub-division. The retiring delegate, Mr. Enzenauer, is held in the highest esteem, and everywhere there are expressions of heartfelt regret at the loss of his services.

• • •
 Aberdonian—What?

Fieldman, to Superintendent.—"Stuck in the snowdrift Stop Can't proceed further Stop Wire instructions."

Superintendent, to Fieldman.—"Take your two weeks' summer holiday Stop Dating from yesterday."

• • •
 That is pretty near the truth. After a long spell of good roads even through the sub-zero weather of January, the big snow put a finish temporarily to roading by car. In some of the country districts meetings had to be cancelled, and only points within easy reach of the railways could carry on. There is talk of putting the plows out on the main highways, and that ought to help some.

• • •
 Poor-minded farmers are jubilant at the announcement of the Keay decision. They know that while there may have been some flaws in the letter of the covenant, there was no possible chance of mistaking the spirit of it in the light of what the farmers wanted to accomplish. The way is clearer now, and the net result, as the fieldman sees it at local points, is that the case served to unite rank and file into a more solid phalanx and the greater work of securing control of the wheat itself will go on right merrily.

• • •
 "God—Give us elevators, a time like this demands
 Our own facilities." Thus ready hands
 Are raised in supplication to the powers
 That be. "Houses," say they, "whose
 towers
 Shall rise from every siding in the West;
 Houses well manned by honest men of
 zest;
 Houses where overages shall be no more;
 Where charges won't accrue for grain in
 store;
 Where grades and dockage shall be based
 on right;
 And all are equal in the agent's sight;
 God—Give us elevators." Amen.

Farmers Penalized by Outworn System

Agriculture cannot continue to buy the products of industry from the proceeds of an antiquated agricultural system, emphasizes Morton L. Corey, one of the men instrumental in the foundation of the U.S. federal intermediate credit banks.

"Agriculture," he said, "cannot always hope to buy the emblems of modern progress unless it applies the principles of



modern business in selling its products. Disorganized agriculture is helpless in an organized era.

"If all the producers of every farm commodity should organize co-operative marketing organizations, grouped upon a business-like basis, federated in their major financing and sales activities, there would be no farm problem."

Among the suggestions for successful operation of co-operatives made by Mr. Corey were: elimination of unnecessary middlemen and distribution machinery; education of producers in the benefits of co-operative marketing and the building of an economic financial structure in which growers can remain loyal, assurance of the highest type of co-operative management.

POOL LITERATURE FOR SENATORS

The Alberta Wheat Pool has received a letter from a State Senator of North Dakota who is so interested in the Canadian Wheat Pool movement that he wants Pool literature sent to every member of that State's senate. The steady advance of the Canadian Wheat Pool movement has created a feeling of surprise and admiration among grain producers of the Western States of our neighboring republic. They have seen this great producers' co-operative rise on the Canadian prairies until it overshadows the greatest of private grain handling companies all over the world. They have marvelled at its efficient functioning and the sincere loyalty of the vast majority of its members. They are anxious to learn just how a producers' co-operative can grow from an idea to a big corporation, annually handling nearly 250 million bushels of grain, in five years' time; and handling the bulk of this grain from the farmer's wagon box all the way to the world markets, and the greater percentage through local and terminal elevators owned and operated by the organization.

A PERFECT RIGHT

The address of J. A. Johansen on the "Methods of the Pool" at the Cardston Board of Trade meeting on Monday, brings before Cardston people a very important factor in the economic life of Canada today, says the *Cardston News*. No matter how you may view the activities of the Pool, you must admit two or three salient facts about the Pool: First, it is in the class of Big Business today. It is one of the biggest Selling Agencies in the world. Second, it is handled by the farmers themselves who have complete control over its management (which was very fully and lucidly explained by Mr. Johansen) and the profits from its operations go back into the pockets of the producers. Third, you cannot deny the right of the producers to handle, dispose of, or sell their own produce. If they make mistakes it is their business. If they make profits that also is their business. No really fair-minded person will deny the farmers have a perfect right (heretofore unexercised) to control the output and sale of their own products.

New Pool Locals

New Wheat Pool Locals have been organized at the following points:

Rockyford, with L. W. Roppel as secretary; and D. S. Howick as chairman.

Mearns, with T. D. Cunningham, R.R. No. 2, Morinville, secretary; and Cyrille Cloutier, Morinville, chairman.

Alberta Wheat Pool First Interim Payment

Payment of 12c a Bushel on Great Bulk of Wheat and 10c on No. 6 and Minor Grades
—Total to Members of Alberta Pool \$6,410,035.12

The first interim payment on the wheat from the 1928 crop has been made by the three Wheat Pools of Western Canada. The payment is 12c a bushel on the great bulk of the wheat and 10c on No. 6 wheat and a few minor grades. The initial payment was 85c a bushel basis 1 Northern, Vancouver.

The Alberta Wheat Pool mailed cheques to its members on February 28th, the total payment in this Province being \$6,410,035.12. This payment covers deliveries recorded to January 31st. The interim payment for deliveries since January 31st will be paid in a couple of weeks' time and will probably total \$600,000, bringing the grand total of the payment to over seven million dollars.

The Wheat Pool has made a practice of making four payments over the year, an initial and three interim payments. These payments are issued at selected times calculated to best suit the membership. The Pool's policy of distributing wheat sales throughout the year requires the carrying of large amounts of the grain in store. No large sums of money realized from wheat sales are ever retained for any length of time. The payments are made as large as possible, every factor being taken into consideration, and the safety of the organization receiving first consideration.

While the payment this year is smaller than the first interim payment last year, it is as large as the judgment of the Board of the Central Selling Agency deemed advisable.

The 10c payment in Alberta is made on No. 6 wheat, rejected No. 6 wheat, 6 C.W.W. Spring wheat, smutty mixed, red and white spring, wheat and wild oats, and 2 cond. heated. No payment is being made on 1 spring and durum, smutty mixed winter and rye, red and white spring mixed.

To cover the payment the Alberta Pool has issued approximately 36,000 cheques.

B.C. Fishermen Form Co-operative Assoc.

Co-operative Business May Include
Catching, Curing, Canning, and Other
Branches of Industry

With a view to raising their standards of living to a tolerable level, British Columbia fishermen, who, thanks to the growth of monopoly, frequently find themselves as poor at the end as at the beginning of a season's work, have organized a Fishermen's Co-operative Association, states "J.S." in *The Labor Statesman*, of Vancouver, B.C. It is expected that the movement will have rapid growth, as the men have much to gain and nothing to lose.

The operations of the co-operative may include the catching, curing, canning of fish, and otherwise engage in the various branches of the fishing industry. A cannery is to be built shortly at Rivers Inlet, and is expected to be running towards the end of June this year. Three hundred members have acquired shares, and it is believed that the coming season will find a big portion of the fishermen doing business for themselves. Its effect on the industry as a whole must be one of betterment, as far as the fishermen are concerned.

The fishing industry on the Pacific coast has been tending toward monopoly in recent years, and the fishermen have been suffering severe hardships from un-

fair competition and exploitation by the cannery operators. The poor prices paid for catches and the excessive charges made for hiring boats and tackle has been difficult to contend with. The fishermen who have formed the co-operative have determined to make a serious attempt to remedy the conditions.

Is on Rochdale Plan

The Co-operative is patterned after the Rochdale plan (one member, one vote) and comes under the Co-operative Societies Act of the Province. Shares of \$25 each are to be sold to members, and to insure the control of the fishermen, 75 per cent of the stock must be held by bona fide workers engaged in the fishing industry. The shares will be non-assessable, and one share entitles a member to the same privileges as a member having the limit—500—except that each share would participate in the dividends, which can not be more than 8 per cent per annum. Members purchasing tackle and supplies from the association will participate in the profits derived from the handling of such goods.

A recent official report shows there are 22,708 manufacturing establishments in Canada with a gross annual production valued at \$3,247,803,000, a capital investment of \$3,981,569,000 and employing 583,970 men and women.

"Good wine needs no bush, and good morals no hated breath."—Sayings of Lo. Su.



Partyism in the Alberta Legislative Assembly

A Survival

By NORMAN F. PRIESTLEY



To the student of history versed in the struggle of the people of Great Britain to gain the ascendancy over a ruling class, tenaciously clinging to powers handed down through the feudal system, the constitution and proceedings of a Provincial Assembly in the British Empire even at this late date may not seem so strange. The two party system undoubtedly has its roots in the past.

That it has been a vital factor in the political development of the English speaking peoples it would be folly to deny. In its embryonic stage, when the feudal barons were fighting for power against an absolute monarch who chose to ignore the traditions of the Anglo-Saxon, it gave us that basis of liberty, the Magna Charta. In the rise of parliamentary institutions which followed it had its place. After the granting of the franchise first to small and then to larger sections of the populace, when the forces of reform gave voice more and more to the great masses of the people; and Whig gave place to Liberal, while Toryism became an amalgam of a slowly dying feudalism and a fast developing monied aristocracy, the division of the representatives of the people into two opposite camps was in the very nature of things.

Even yet in the Mother of Parliaments it cannot be denied that the party system is grounded in reality. Opposition to the government of the day is genuine, though the complexion of parties may be so changed and the interfusion of reform ideas be so great as to make it increasingly difficult to differentiate between them. Each has its left and right wings. Indeed in the last half century the left wing of the Liberal party has split off; and, dissatisfied with the old alignment, people of the working classes and many others of forward look have set up the Labor group in the House. There is a fundamental difference between an Imperialist and a representative of organized Labor at Westminster.

* * *

Some faint reflection of these historic differences might be found on examination in the Dominion House of Commons. Tradition dies slowly. Categories once set up have a way of attracting facts. It is never easy to furl the banners under which our fathers have marched. While in some fields of social effort change takes place with breathtaking rapidity, brought about by mechanical invention and industrial progress, the evolution of political thought is more gradual. So it is that in this new land we find the old names and the old banners; and every few years the people who otherwise seem to have no pronounced political complexion are asked to rally around party leaders. It is as though some sergeant instructor appears on the national parade ground, blows his whistle and shouts, "In two ranks fall in!" We do so; and through our representatives march to Ottawa, where one rank is marched so many paces from the other and receives the "About turn." Thus is the machinery of government set up. With wordy bayonets the two ranks stand on guard and "long point, short point, or jab" on command. In what essential have the parties at

Ottawa differed from each other in recent years? If it were not for the presence there of the advance guards of a new political consciousness, it were a sham fight in very truth.

* * *

It is but a few short years since the growing revulsion to this system as applied to the government of the people of these prairies found expression in the entrance of the agricultural socio-economic group to political action. The farmers of Alberta had long been feeling that beneath this mock warfare with its banners and shibboleths of the past a real war was going on of which they were the victims no matter which side won. When, therefore, in 1921, the whistle of the political sergeants was heard, they gathered in a compact group so much larger than those who obeyed as of old that they made the traditionalists look like a corporal's guard.

It will soon be eight years since that memorable re-alignment; but what do we find? Even today in spite of all that has been done we find upon us "the dead hand of the past." Sufficient vestiges of the old system remain: to change the figure, enough of the old thought survives, that progress is like brakes set going up hill. Truly we cannot do the things that we would.

* * *

In the Alberta Legislative Assembly the ghost of the old party system still stalks. On the right of the Speaker are ranged the Government "benches" forty-three desks in all, of which Premier Brownlee and his cabinet of seven occupy the front row, the remaining thirty-five legislators constituting his support seated behind. What on the left? Four staunch upholders of the traditions of blue blood and imperialism; seven champions of constitutional reform, heirs of Gladstone and Laurier, now the legal holders of the title "His Majesty's Loyal Opposition;" and six uncompromising advocates of the rights of organized Labor.

In the functioning of this last named group we have some foreshadowing of the future. While seated opposite the Government and between the two old party groups, their position on the floor of the Assembly is no criterion of their attitude towards legislation. They reserve the right to criticize, and exercise it freely; but at no time is there evidence of any desire merely to embarrass the administration, make capital out of its mistakes, or exploit its weaknesses. The members of that group are there with an eye to two principal things: to give voice to their social philosophy, with a view to the progressive education of the public in a direction which they clearly perceive; and to secure ameliorative legislation for the under privileged rank and file of the people. They seldom oppose the agrarian group opposite.

With the other two groups it is different. They cannot forget their banners. They constantly show consciousness of a relation to the parties who carry their banner in the greater parliaments. They pick flaws in and pull to pieces the Speech from the Throne. They twist and distort the figures of the budget and the public accounts. They magnify

every error of judgment on the part of any member of the Government or any of its employees. They make mountains of scandal out of molehills of fact. While professing to regard with horror anything that is of a red or revolutionary color, they do not scruple by insinuation and innuendo to exploit class prejudice and arouse antagonisms among the populace. Sarcasm and scorn are frequently on their lips. Is the business of the country being held up? What matter? Their business is to pull down, to make inoperative; never forgetting meanwhile that they themselves are opponents by tradition; never overlooking the possibility that by some grand chance the tide of public opinion may swing in their favor and confer upon one or other of them the powers of government.

* * *

This opposition complex has curious results. It introduces an element of unreality into the debate. So frequently are the arguments advanced seen to be part of the political game, that when in all sincerity something is said by a party leader or one of his supporters that bears the badge of wisdom, the question arises as to the motive. Perhaps it has an eye to the press gallery. Perhaps it is to lay claim for the credit of introducing some reform which the people much desire.

The system has a baleful effect upon the very men who were elected to destroy it. In the first place the personal element enters. It takes a long view and much patience to constantly refuse to be drawn into recriminations. It is human nature to retort in kind; and notwithstanding their espousal of a new political philosophy members of the Government benches are sometimes found using the language of detraction, speaking in the same strain as the exponents of the old.

This, moreover, is not the most serious aspect of the case. Fearing lest some word of criticism on their part should be interpreted as a sign of disaffection within Government ranks, the back benchers of the Farmer group do not express themselves as freely as they should. Truly, the policies of the Government are laid before them. They have their members' conferences where there is more freedom because the political enemy is not at hand; but the private judgment of the people's representatives is withheld from the opposing forces and unrevealed to the public because, while on all other matters they may be in perfect accord with the Ministerial benches, to give voice to an opinion differing seriously from that of the Government is to place weapons in the hands of their opponents which may ultimately bring disaster upon their own leaders.

* * *

The mock battle proceeds; though the principle has been denied by the action of the Legislature some years ago in taking the additional session indemnity provided by statute for the leader of the opposition, and dividing it between the three non-government party leaders.

Men no doubt otherwise sincere use their intellect to hinder the process of

(Continued on page 40)

Report of Department of Railways Shows Progress of Year

Lingering Regret That Lines Had to Be Sold Caused by Inspection of Report—
Successful Operation of Past Few Years

Bound in blue lined paper covers, a volume of some thirty-six type-written foolscap pages was laid on the table of the Alberta Legislature this session by the Hon. Vernor W. Smith, Minister of Railways and Telephones. Of this annual report of the Department of Railways some eighteen pages are devoted to a running story of the work of the year ending December 31st, 1928, while the other section is devoted to schedules pertaining thereto.

To the reader who believes in the extension of the principle and practice of public ownership, sections of the report reinforce the lingering regret that these lines had to be sold. It is obvious that an era of expansion is before the northern territories served. This, and the fact that the Department has operated the railways so effectively in the past few years, is doubtless the cause of the willingness of the big trans-continental systems to take them over at a price ten million dollars in advance of their offer of three years ago.

The report shows that large revenues have been derived through the year from importation of goods and machinery, an index of the steady improvement in economic conditions in the north. The expansion of agriculture in those areas is demonstrated by the building during the twelve months of sixty new elevators.

Pure Salt Deposit at Waterways

Results of the drilling operations carried on by the Department at Waterways are the first subject of comment in the report. The people of the other sections of Alberta will be more than ordinarily interested to know that at a depth of 670 feet a body of almost pure salt was entered by the drills and was found to extend to a depth of 213 feet. This immense body of salt proved on analysis to be 99 per cent pure; it is immediately adjacent to the railway facilities at Waterways, and will no doubt result in active developments in that area in the near future.

On the E.D. and B.C. line extensive repairs were carried on during the past year on bridges, trestles and culverts, involving costs reaching to \$35,140. Ties were renewed to the number of 240,000. Of new tie plates the number was 40,789; 119,048 cubic yards of ballast were laid. Over 9,000 lineal feet of new bridge and side piling was used, as well as 29,280 feet board measure of timber. A large number of new side-tracks, passing tracks, elevator tracks and access roads were built, highway crossings and farm crossings constructed; and some new station buildings, tool houses, loading platforms, stockyards, water tanks, telegraph lines, etc., erected.

Twenty-five miles of new line were laid on this railway from Wembley to Hythe between June the 22nd and December 10th. This is one of the extensions provided for in Section 7 of the Railway Bill, (which recently passed the Legislature), to authorize the sale of the Northern railways to the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways. The estimated cost of that extension as given in the report stood at \$553,573. Under the agreement of sale this expenditure will

be rebated to the Provincial Government after ratification of the sale.

Large Operating Surplus on E.D. & B.C.

On the E.D. & B.C. the report shows an operating surplus, after deducting all expenses except interest, of \$795,246 as compared with \$353,479 last year.

Extensive renewals in ties, plates, ballast, bridges, piling and culverts were also found necessary on the Central Canada railway during the past year; also the building of side tracks, spurs, etc.

Construction was commenced on May 22nd of a fifteen mile extension from Whitelaw to Waterhole now known as Fairview. This was completed and opened for operation on November 2nd. The covering of the costs of this extension is also provided for in the same section of the Bill as the foregoing. The appropriations for this were \$435,000. The net deficit on the operation of this section of the railway was reduced from \$66,267 in 1927 to \$39,513 in 1928. There was an increase of revenue from operation of \$70,145.

The Pembina Valley Railway was practically completed in 1927, so that little was done on this line during the past year. In that area, only one new elevator was erected during the year. Some growth is recorded at the townsite of Barrhead, making it advisable to further subdivide the townsite and place sixty-six lots available for sale.

The year's operations on this line were conducted at a loss of \$7,198. It was only opened for operation on October 18th, 1927. The total revenue for the past year was \$24,864.

All the necessary repairs were undertaken during the year on the Alberta and Great Waterways.

Some agricultural development is taking place along this line as is indicated by the erection of eight elevators. There was an increase of \$38,407 in the total revenues of this line as compared with that of 1927. There was an improvement in the net revenues over 1927, exclusive of interest charges, of \$42,450.

The Lacombe and North Western

In view of the fact that any operating surplus on the Lacombe and North-Western Railway since its inception had been practically negligible and that its disposal would relieve the Province of interest amounting to approximately \$81,000 annually, when an offer was received in January, 1928, from the Canadian Pacific Railway of the sum of \$1,500,000, the Alberta Government decided to accept. An agreement providing that the company would in addition to this cash payment indemnify the Government against future liability on \$273,700 five per cent bonds; also that the company would build a twenty-mile extension within three years of the date of transfer, was drawn up. Ratifying legislation was passed last session and the transfer of the entire assets of the line to the company effected on March 1st, 1928. This extension was commenced during the past season and it is expected to complete the same this year, bringing the total mileage to 92 miles. The line came under the control of the Province in 1917.

It traverses the Blindman Valley from Lacombe to Breton.

An interesting schedule in the report is that of the railway mileages of the Province from 1905 to 1928. The increase has been from 1060 to 5342.

Comparison of Provincial Mileages

Schedule "B" compares the mileages of the Western Provinces as follows:

	Dec. 31st, 1927	1928
Ontario, west of Port Arthur	1124	1124
Manitoba	4631	4822
Saskatchewan	7364	7553
Alberta	5186	5342
British Columbia	3898	3899

The Alberta mileage is distributed between the lines as follows:

	1927	1928
C.P.R.	2146	2304
C.N.R.	2148	2205
E.D. & B.C.	423	423
A. & G.W.	286	286
Central Canada	85	98
Pembina Valley	26	26

An analysis of the figures shows that in the part of the Dominion west of Port Arthur of a total railway mileage of 22,730, the two big companies owned on December 31st, 1928, 20,614 miles, 9332 being under the control of the Canadian Pacific and 11,282 under the Canadian National.

POWER PRODUCTION IN CANADA

OTTAWA, Canada.—Among the items exported from Canada to the United States not shown in the official trade statement, is electric energy. A recent report issued by the Canadian Government Bureau of Statistics shows that Canada exported in 1928 electric energy measured at 1,587,710,000 kilowatt hours, or approximately one-tenth of the total Canadian production. In this total is included 454,156,000 k.w. hours from power stations at Niagara Falls, Ontario.

During the past five years the output of electric energy from central electric stations in Canada has almost doubled. The average daily production in 1928 was 43,558,000 kilowatt hours, not including the output of power plants of electric railways.

The rapid growth of the Canadian pulp and paper industry has been one factor in the large increase in the consumption of electricity, but it has by no means been the only important factor. The domestic load or the consumption for lighting houses has grown from the addition of new customers and also from increased use per customer and the consumption for power purposes by all manufacturing industries has grown very rapidly.

Practically all manufacturing industries in Canada are operating their machinery either partially or wholly by electricity, which is largely purchased from central electric stations.

TOO SOON AFTER CHRISTMAS

Mrs. A.—What became of that duck of a hat you bought last week?

Mrs. B.—I returned it. Hubby said he'd have to duck the expense.—*Life*.

WHAT HE SAID

Big Sister—What did Captain Smith say about my voice?

Young Brother—He muttered something that sounded like "a night in a gale."—*Yorkshire Post*.

Minister of Railways on Sale of Northern Lines

Speech of Hon. V. W. Smith in Alberta Legislature

The speech of 'Hon. V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways, in moving the adoption of a bill providing for the sale of Alberta's Northern Railways, is given in full below:

At the last session of the Legislature the Government was authorized to reject the joint offer of \$17,420,000.00 for the E.D. & B.C. and Central Canada Railways, and also the independent offer made by the Canadian National for the A. & G.W. Railway. These purchase proposals, although not sufficiently attractive to justify acceptance, afforded ample confirmation of the wisdom of the course adopted by the Government in the year 1926 when it was decided to assume the control and management of the Northern railways with the object of ascertaining the earning potentialities of the properties when divorced from the obvious disadvantages and restrictions resulting from the policy of leasing.

The first full year of Government operation, that of 1927, resulted in a net operating surplus for all the Northern railways of \$303,786.63, as against an operating deficit of \$188,655.34 in the previous year. This was regarded by the Government as a very satisfactory outcome of its policy in assuming control of all the Northern roads. The results obtained for the year 1928, however, have been even more satisfactory than those of 1927, and it is gratifying for me to be able to announce that the total operating surplus derived from all the Northern railways for the year 1928 is \$810,209.41.

These results justify the Government's contention that the Northern railways were not the hopeless liability they were represented to be in certain quarters, but on the contrary potential assets which, under certain conditions, could eventually be converted into a source of revenue, and which the Province should be able to dispose of at a price approximating their physical value.

Unwarranted Pessimism

It is difficult to understand the reasons for the depression and despondency that has prevailed in the mind of my honorable friend, Mr. Duggan, regarding the considerations that influenced the Government in conducting the negotiations for the sale of the Provincial railways. Gambling had no place in the policy that was observed. Our faith in the abounding vitality and unceasing growth of the Province of Alberta and the Peace River region were the reasons that influenced the Government's course in refusing to accept the joint offers submitted for the purchase of these railways early last year.

We also realized that our railway system must develop and grow with the country that it would serve—that it must ever expand its capacity and improve its service. This would require large capital expenditures, which we believed this Province would not be justified in providing, in view of the opportunity for completing a sale as now proposed on the terms made available by the Canadian Pacific offer to purchase.

Prior to the assumption of control of the railways by the Government, offers to lease had increased from

\$50,000.00 per annum in 1925 to \$250,000.00 per annum in 1926, but no offers to purchase were forthcoming. However, after one year's operation by the Department of Railways, the first definite purchase offers were received.

Definite Price Set

After the close of the last session the question of an improved offer was taken up personally with the respective presidents of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railways, but without result. It was, therefore, decided to set a definite price which the Government would be prepared to consider for the sale of its entire railway undertakings, and accordingly, on June 13th last, the two railway presidents were advised individually that an offer of \$25,000,000 would receive consideration.

On September 17th the president of the Canadian Pacific Railway submitted an offer, and it is this offer (subsequently improved as to terms of payment) which is now presented by the Government for consideration by this House and which is recommended for acceptance.

Cost of Extensions in Addition

The consideration of \$25,000,000 embodied in the offer of the Canadian Pacific Railway does not include the Government's commitments in respect of the recently constructed extensions to the Edmonton, Dunvegan & B.C. and Central Canada Railways, the expenditures in connection with which are to be assumed in addition by the purchaser. The original offer of September 17th provided for the assumption of liability by the Canadian Pacific Railway for the debenture and bond indebtedness of the Edmonton, Dunvegan & B.C. Railway, totalling \$9,420,000.00, and for the payment of the balance of the purchase price of \$15,580,000.00 in ten years from the date of transfer of the properties, with interest at 4 per cent. These terms were subsequently improved by the provision for a first payment of \$5,000,000.00 on June 1st 1929, \$5,000,000 on June 1st, 1933, and the balance of \$5,580,000.00 on June 1st, 1939. This offer of \$25,000,000.00, it should be stated, is within approximately \$3,000,000.00 of the physical valuation which had been placed on the properties. It will thus be seen that the price set by the Government has finally been met and its policy justified.

The Canadian Pacific offer included the right to permit the Canadian National Railways to join in the purchase on a 50 per cent basis, and it is gratifying to announce that the National Railways has availed itself of the opportunity afforded, and two transcontinentals will now combine in the operation of, and extensions to, our Northern railways.

Capital Loss Involved

The approximate capital loss involved will be \$10,820,000 in addition to an amount of \$5,994,735.61 representing interest paid out of income as at March 31st, 1928. These amounts may be regarded as the Province's contribution to the opening up and development of its Northern territory, but with the assumption of control by the Province of its natural resources I believe it might

fairly be said that the increment due to the existence of the Northern railways in the territory where so large a part of the unalienated resources of the Province exist, will undoubtedly many times surpass in value the amount of the contribution I have mentioned.

While the operation by the Department of Railways under the present management has been and would, no doubt, continue to be productive of very considerable net operating revenues the offer now under consideration would exceed by a yearly average of \$314,461.75 during the next twelve years, the annual relief to the Provincial budget which might reasonably be expected under Provincial ownership, without taking into account the capital outlay which would be necessary to provide extensions requisite for the expected development of the territory during that period. The improvement in the purchase proposal over Provincial ownership has been estimated on a 4½ per cent investment basis; on a basis of 5 per cent the average annual improvement for the same period would be \$358,073.50.

I think it is fitting at this time to express the Government's gratification at the very satisfactory results achieved in the comparatively short period during which the Northern railways have been under Government control. These results are due in large measure to the wide experience, and administrative capacity of the Deputy Minister and General Manager of the Railways, Mr. John Callaghan, although much credit is also due to the officers and employees of all departments of the railways, without whose efficiency, loyalty and co-operation the success obtained would not have been possible.

Beginning of New Era

The consummation of this agreement, Mr. Speaker, will in my opinion mark the commencement of a new era in the territory served by the Northern railways. With the entrance of the two great transcontinental systems into the Northern portion of the Province, the stage is set for an epoch of growth and development that will altogether eclipse the accomplishments of the past, great as those have undoubtedly been. By their joint action in this matter, these two great railways are making an affirmation of their faith in the potentialities of the Northern Empire, and I have no doubt that all the resources of these great organizations will be made immediately available to bring about the rapid settlement and development of the territory served by the northern lines. Their plans for the future undoubtedly contemplate a program of branch lines and extensions with the object of opening up still further agricultural and mineral areas. The people of Alberta must necessarily participate in the increase in wealth and prosperity which will inevitably follow the resulting expansion and development, and it is my belief that the action which the House is now being asked to take, as embodied in the provision of this bill, will produce lasting benefits to the people of this Province, and will result in an increase and broadening of their interest in the Northern Alberta Railways and the territory which they were designed to serve.

Legislature Approves Sale of the Northern Railways After Full Debate Without Division

Case for State Medicine Is Ably Presented in Discussion of Resolution on Rural Medical Service—Assembly Asks Federal Assistance in Highways Construction

STAFF CORRESPONDENCE

Bill for Sale of the Northern Railways Moved in Assembly

Members Discuss Measure Which Will Transfer Lines to New Ownership.

MONDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 18th.—Stating that in his opinion the time had arrived when in the interest of the North country as well as of the Province as a whole the Provincial railways should be disposed of, Hon. V. W. Smith, Minister of Railways and Telephones, under whose administration a general operating loss on the system has been converted into a large operating surplus, moved the second reading in the Assembly today of the bill which provides for the sale of the lines. Mr. Smith pointed out that the price obtained is within three million dollars of the physical valuation of the properties placed upon it by the Government, and that the approximate loss to the Province on the whole transaction would be under 17 million dollars, and he described this sum as Alberta's contribution to the opening up of the great northern territory. He felt confident that with the return to the Province of its resources, the unalienated portions of which were largely in those territories the Province would recoup the loss over and over again. The Province had demonstrated that these lines were not a hopeless liability, as certain people had suggested, and by this demonstration had made it possible to sell them at something like their physical value. He took exception to the recent statement of Mr. D. M. Duggan, Conservative member for Edmonton, that the Government had taken a gambling chance, and claimed that all their actions had been based on the solid foundation of accurate knowledge of all the conditions and an enlightened confidence in the country and its resources.

In describing the negotiations leading up to the sale, he explained that the offer of the C. P. Railway Co. was based upon the sale price which his department had fixed as a minimum. It did not include the recent extensions made, the cost of which would be assumed by the purchaser.

GENEROUS TRIBUTE TO LOYAL ASSISTANTS

The Minister paid a generous tribute to the outstanding work of his Deputy Minister, Mr. Callahan, in rehabilitating these lines and turning them into a saleable asset, and included in his tribute all the employees from the highest to the lowest whose loyal co-operation had made these results possible. He believed that with the entry into this territory of the two great transcontinental systems with all their financial and managerial

The terms of the Alberta Government's sale of the Northern railways commanded almost general commendation in the Legislature last week, when the bill providing for the sale was carried without division. The Minister of Railways pointed out that under Provincial operation it had been demonstrated that the railways were not a hopeless liability; as a result of this period of Government operation it had been possible to sell the lines at something like their real value. The offer now accepted would exceed by a yearly average of \$314,416.75 during the next twelve years the annual relief to the budget which might have been expected under Provincial ownership, without taking into account the capital outlay necessary to provide extensions.

The Assembly discussed further the subject of medical needs of rural areas. Public Works estimates totalling over \$2,000,000 were passed. The Assembly asked the assistance of the Federal Government in highways construction.

On Friday, the Conservative leader gave notice of motion for a public inquiry into the conduct of the Ponoka mental hospital.

resources, a new era of growth would open up for the North, that settlement would be accelerated and that extensions to the existing lines would follow more rapidly than would be possible under Provincial ownership.

The Minister's clear and lucid exposition was listened to with keen interest and was warmly applauded from all parts of the Assembly.

GIROUX'S VIEWS ON THE SETTLEMENT

L. A. Giroux, (Liberal), Grouard, expressed himself as ready to accept the offer made, as regards to price, but felt that the interest of the people of the North had not been sufficiently protected and that insufficient cognizance had been taken of the vast potentialities of the territories concerned. With a somewhat sinister emphasis on the word "this", he was pleased that this Government was getting out of the railway business. He was inclined to give considerable credit to the Liberal Governments of the past for their foresight and good judgment. He was convinced that the Government could have linked up these railroads to the Hudson Bay and the Pacific and made a good profit out of the job within 20 years. He maintained that the Greenfield administration had been ready to sell the lines for five million dollars less than the present offer, and challenged anyone to deny it—a challenge which was promptly taken up by Premier Brownlee. After praising the B.C. Government for its efforts to link up with the Peace River country, Mr. Giroux regretted that so little had been done by "this Government" to co-ordinate its efforts with those of its neighbors with a view to giving a coast outlet to the district in which he was so much interested. Instead of a mere 60 miles of extensions "this Government" should have insisted on at least 260 miles. The whole North was clamoring for these extensions and wouldn't be happy till they got them.

He was afraid the railway companies wouldn't have enough of the pioneer spirit to build these lines unless they were forced to do it.

In referring to the tribute paid by the Minister to his employees, Mr. Giroux enquired what steps had been taken to see that these faithful employees did not lose their jobs as a result of the sale. He felt that verbal bouquets were a cold kind of a substitute for a protecting clause in the contract—which he had been unable to find.

"There are negotiations going on, Mr. Speaker, between all sorts of interested parties as to railroad development in the North and 'this' Government ought to find out exactly what is being done."

It appeared to him that the announcement of this sale was received with rejoicing everywhere except in the North. He was personally satisfied with the joint ownership proposition, but a great many people were inclined to be critical of it. "In any event, Mr. Speaker, I am glad that THIS Government is getting out of the railroad business."

J. W. Frame, (Liberal), Athabasca, who followed with what was taken to be a speech but which subsequent events proved to have been only a question, wanted to know why the Government hadn't provided in the agreement for the extension of the A. & G. W. to Fort McMurray,—as promised. Mr. Brownlee denied that any such promise had ever been given.

McKEEN IS COLDLY CRITICAL

Milton McKeen, (U.F.A.), Lac St. Anne, was coldly critical of the proposed deal. He voiced a strenuous objection to joint ownership by the National Railway and the C.P.R. Such an arrangement would, in his opinion, make it fatally easy to pass the buck from one to the other when requests were made for railroad extensions. He prophesied that before the end of ten years the people

of the North would come to curse such an arrangement, and that even the citizens of Edmonton who had been so active on behalf of the C.N.R. would live to regret it. The C.N.R. itself didn't want to become part owners and he felt very strongly that this part of the agreement should be struck out.

SHAW'S AGREEMENT HIGHLY QUALIFIED

J. T. Shaw, the Liberal leader, was in general agreement with the proposed sale because he couldn't see how, under present conditions, the Government could hope to make good in the railway business. He was still of the opinion, which he stated in the debate on the Speech from the throne, that the preference should have been given to the National Railway, and that a comprehensive scheme of railroad development and colonization should have been aimed at, with the active co-operation of the Federal and Provincial Governments. He regretted that no details had been given as to how the joint ownership was going to be worked out. It appeared that the Province was going to suffer a loss of some 17 millions if this offer were accepted, and he took issue with the statement of the Minister of Railways that earnings by these lines of over 900,000 dollars would necessarily involve increased expenditures. Why not hold on to the railways for another ten years, he asked, and by taking advantage of the inevitable development in store for this territory, obtain a price sufficient to cover the deficit of 17 million dollars? "Can we not, at least, hope to better our position sufficiently in the next few years to make up the three million dollar difference between the present offer and the physical valuation made?" he asked.

While he was prepared to vote for the Bill in view of all the circumstances, he was by no means jubilant over the deal itself.

REASONS WHICH INFLUENCED PREMIER

Premier Brownlee prefaced his remarks by disclaiming all the credit that had been given him in connection with this deal, and paid a generous tribute to the work of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Railways for skillful operation of these lines and efficient conduct of the negotiations leading up to the sale. He desired to give the Assembly some of the reasons that had influenced him in finally accepting the offer of the C.P.R. After premising that there was only one way to sell a commodity; viz., by demonstrating its value, he asked himself these questions; (1) Do either of these roads lend themselves to independent operation? With regard to the E.D. & B.C. group, the answer must be in the negative. Here was a railroad whose traffic consisted of agricultural products, not to be marketed in the Province and requiring a main line outlet in order to reach its ultimate destination. Obviously the major benefit of the freight structure of such a road must enure to the benefit of the main lines of which it was only a feeder. He contrasted this with Ontario's Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, which tapped a mineral area and received practically the whole traffic benefit from a very profitable class of freight.

As far as the A. & G.W. Railway was concerned, the answer was not so definitely in the negative on account of the mineral possibilities of the territory served. This raised the second question. Why should we continue to operate

the A. & G.W. by itself? Obviously it was difficult to justify the maintenance of a railway department for one small line whose earning possibilities were so largely in the future.

COULD NOT BUILD OUTSIDE PROVINCE

The third question the Premier had asked himself was: Can the Provincial Government give to either road its logical development in the way of coast and other outlets? The answer was again in the negative. No Provincial Government would be justified in building outlet roads across other Provinces. It was better to get these roads into the hands of organizations who were equipped to render these services. The same argument held good with regard to extensions. The Government could not undertake burdens of this nature without crippling other Provincial activities of a more imperious character, such as education, health services, roads, etc. which could not in the nature of things be turned over to any other authority.

The fourth question he asked himself had to do with the possibility of the Provincial lines having to meet competition. So far they had had the field to themselves, but other lines might be built in from east or west and wipe out the profit possibilities now existing. A further danger was that the C.N. and the C.P.R. might come to some agreement for handling their traffic less advantageous than that now existing.

In answer to the Liberal leader, Mr. Brownlee pointed out that there was a definite ratio between expenditure and operating revenue. This had been kept extremely low in the Government lines, some 42 per cent as compared to the Canadian average of about 70 per cent. This low ratio had been made possible by cutting equipment and wages to the bone, and such a policy could not, in justice to the patrons and workers, be continued indefinitely.

There was no doubt that the traffic on these lines would continue to grow, but he believed that the growth would be more rapid if this sale were made. The Province, for instance, could not secure the same favorable rates to encourage development of such resources as salt and tar sands as were possible to companies having control of the main line situation.

In answer to Mr. McKeen, the Premier said the organization to be set up by the two railroads would, he felt sure, meet his objection to joint ownership. A pledge had been given that both companies would act in the interest of the country and of harmony and progress. The pooling of their resources would ensure energetic and rapid development.

In answer to Mr. Giroux, Mr. Brownlee said the Government had gone as far as it was wise to go in pressing for extensions. You could not press for these things beyond a certain limit without imperilling the negotiations. He had sufficient confidence in the business acumen of those in charge of the railways to trust them to do what was in the best interest of these territories.

As far as the employees were concerned he had assurances that they would be taken care of as far as it was possible to do so.

In conclusion, the Premier believed that the Government was well out of the railway business. The loss of 17 millions would be amply compensated for by the growth that would take place in these

territories. The sale had placed the Government in a better condition for carrying on those activities which were more specifically within its sphere, and there was certainly no reason to fear that the North country would be adversely affected.

MCGILLIVRAY THINKS DEAL A GOOD ONE

A. A. McGillivray, the Conservative leader, was inclined to take the Premier to task because the agreement between the companies as to joint operation had not been laid before the Legislature. He was quite sure that when he referred to his scrap book of past speeches he would find that the Premier had been giving exactly the same reasons for this sale as he himself had urged two sessions ago. He agreed with Mr. McKeen that it was not in the interest of the North country that competition should be eliminated between the two railway systems of Canada. While there was a certain advantage in combining the resources of the two companies for a more speedy construction of a coast outlet, he was still of the opinion that it would have been better to have a one company deal. He was always prepared to criticize this Government, he said, when he thought they needed it, but in this particular case he was ready to admit that they had made a good deal and were entitled to commendation on that account.

Hugh Allen, U.F.A. member for Peace River, moved the adjournment of the debate and will be the next speaker to be heard from.

Railways Bill Passes Second Reading in Alberta Legislature

McGillivray, Lymburn and Joint Ownership—Northern Members Favor Deal
—Gibbs Presents Case for State Medicine

TUESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 19.—Dividing the time between the second reading of the bill providing for the sale of the Northern railways and the motion offered last week by G. H. Webster concerning overseas physicians, the Legislators today heard speeches from eight members of the Assembly. From the Labor ranks C. L. Gibbs, having adjourned the debate on the latter question spoke also in the debate on the railway sale bill, and Hugh Allen, of Peace River, and George MacLachlan, of Pembina, speaking from the U.F.A. side, gave voice to the satisfaction of those Northern constituencies at the consummation of the deal. The latter guarded by sound argument any future attempt to discredit the principle of public ownership by citation of the surrender of these roads to the transcontinental systems. The Minister of Railways, in brief summary, noted the fact that there had been no word of criticism on the operation of the roads during the term of Government control. Mr. Gibbs voiced the disappointment of Labor and many other sections that the lines had not become the property of the National Railways, and suggested a "paralysing hand" at Ottawa.

Of the five speakers who dealt with the question of the importation of doctors not one expressed hostility to "state medicine." Two of the Labor members Messrs. Gibbs and Pattinson, took the

occasion to express the views of Labor on this subject; Hon. R. G. Reid gave facts to show the inability of the product of our own schools to meet the demand; Donald Cameron, U.F.A., applied the same economic law being invoked to other callings. The Liberal leader insisted that the proposed amendment was not wide enough in scope, that it should give preference, as did the motion, to any Canadian trained doctor.

There is evidence of some little Ministerial impatience at the length of these two debates.

Adoption of the report of the Committee on Municipal Law, first readings to four bills, and second readings of two others, were the preliminaries on Tuesday to the resumption of debate on Bill No. 11, an Act which "may be cited as 'The Alberta Government Railways Act, 1929'." Notice was given by the Premier that the Wheat Pool Act would be brought in for second reading on Monday the 25th.

NORTHERN MEMBER ON RAILWAY DEAL

Hugh Allen (U.F.A.), Peace River, took up the debate. He had sympathy for the member for Lac Ste. Anne (Milton McKeen) with respect to the failure to extend the Onoway to Whitecourt branch of the C.N.R. into the Peace River country. That was of the past, however, and the present problem was before us. He gave instances of the development of the Peace River, told of a blockade of cars filled with wheat extending over 110 days and of the great losses sustained by the farmers of that area because of their inability to move their crops. Since the E.D. & B.C. had been taken over by the Government the people had received good service. He took exception to some remarks of the member for Athabasca. The development of Northern Alberta was far in advance of that of the other Prairie Provinces. He reminded the Liberal member for Grouard (L. A. Giroux) of a certain election speech, and stated that this Government would surely be howled down as he had been on that occasion if they had attempted to direct the two transcontinental systems as to the route to the Pacific coast. President Beatty of the C.P.R. had stated last year that the problem of development was one of branch lines. This would determine the coast route.

Some critics had argued that the crops of the last two years had been unusual. Equally good crops had been grown in other years. Twelve out of eighteen seasons had produced good crops. The winning of world championships by Hermann Trelle had proven to be no accident. Photos had been shown at a recent banquet of the coming of the pioneers to the Peace River twenty years ago. Twelve teams had taken three months to drive the six hundred miles from Edmonton to the Spirit River. Ninety per cent of these original settlers were still there. There had been many blunders in location and construction. Much capital expenditure for reconditioning was imminent. People in the north were satisfied that the offer being considered was a good one.

"PARALYSING HAND" ON THE C.N.R.

Mr. Allen was of the opinion that while it had been hoped in his constituency that the C.N.R. would acquire the lines, the people were not greatly concerned at the joint ownership proposed. They had been disappointed at the lack of action on the part of the National directors since 1926. At Grande Prairie, President

Beatty had stated that the C.P.R. were watching progress. At Peace River, after seeing the country, he had announced that they were desirous of entering and that they would enter, if not in one way then in another. The C.P.R. had been growing in favor there ever since. Some paralysing hand must have been laid on the C.N.R.

Concluding, the speaker expressed fear of the projected Hudson's Bay outlet preventing the building of an outlet to the Pacific. They much preferred the latter.

LABOR MEMBER PRESENTS VIEWS

The Labor member for Edmonton, C. L. Gibbs, took the occasion to remark his disillusionment with respect to the U.F.A. members opposite, if the remarks of Mr. McKeen on Monday were a criterion of their belief. He thought farmers believed in co-operation and in public ownership. Why so heartily endorsed by the Leader of the Conservative group? The Ethiopian would doubtless emerge during the discussion of the Wheat Pool bill.

Mr. Gibbs, while agreeing that the bargain made by the Government was a good one, and not attaching to THIS Government any blame, thought it a pity that the lines had not been acquired by the National railway system. He was therefore "reservedly jubilant."

This was not a small affair, concerning say, Slumton-in-Slough. It was a national affair. The northern areas had always been looked upon as a prospective opportunity for the western section of the C.N.R. There was a much greater chance of solving the question of a coastal outlet through the Canadian National main line than in any other way.

LYMBURN ON MCGILLIVRAY'S SHORT MEMORY

Hon. J. F. Lymburn denied the claim of the Conservatives to the credit for the sale of the railways. They had criticized Mr. Callaghan for putting the sale price too high. It had become quite evident that the Deputy Minister knew what he was doing. The Conservative

leader had agreed with the member for Lac Ste. Anne in deprecating joint ownership. Two years ago he had advocated it. Here Mr. Lymburn read from newspaper files. *No better argument for joint ownership than the Conservative had then given was possible.* Mr. McGillivray had strictured the Premier for having had access to documents concerning the sale which were not available to other members. To make them so had not been possible. The Attorney General placed on the table a copy of the Act now before the House at Ottawa relating to the sale of the railways.

SUCCESS PROVED OF GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

George MacLachlan (U.F.A.), Pembina, stating that the E.D. & B.C. traversed his constituency for one hundred miles, said he regarded the proposed sale as the conclusion of a valuable experiment in public ownership; and as little had been said about the success of the operations of the railways in the past two and one half years; and the fact that the railways had passed out of Government control might be used as an argument against that principle, he would place a few considerations before them. *J. T. Shaw had said in 1926 that it was "a dangerous task for the Government."* Mr. Giroux, another Liberal, had also said that to govern the road was *"to go at the risk of life and limb."* Now this road, one of the four being sold advantageously, had been operated by the C.P.R. at a net loss of \$188,000 in their last year of lease. *The Department of Railways had converted that loss into a profit of \$303,786 in the first year of operation and had increased rather than curtailed the services, while not permitting the road to depreciate.* The rates had been reduced from the mountain to the prairie schedule just prior to the acquisition of the lines by the Province.

Mr. MacLachlan admitted that the development of the north had been beneficial to the railways; but believed that the greatest fact in the successful operation of the lines had been the efficient management of the Department. It was not generally known that the largest locomotives operating from the capital city were on the Government line. He had heard no word of criticism as to the operation of these lines from anyone except the members of the opposition. There was universal satisfaction in his constituency. He did not agree with Mr. McKeen in opposing dual control. The responsibility for the failure of the C.N.R. to take over the E.D. & B.C. or other lines lay at the door of the Federal Government. He believed that the Province at large and his constituency in particular were quite satisfied with the bargain struck.

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS CLOSES DEBATE

The Hon. Vernor W. Smith, Minister of Railways, closed the debate with the statement that while there had been much concern two and a half years ago on both sides of the Assembly when the Government launched on its railway venture, he was gratified that during the present debate there had not been one word of criticism about the operation of the roads. The service had been satisfactory to the people served. Replying to a criticism from the Liberal benches that the Government were not carrying out its obligations to the North country, Mr. Smith showed that a substantial addition had been made to the length of the line. The Government were also

building the Peace River highway. He moved the second reading of the bill and it was passed.

EMPLOYMENT OF OVERSEAS PHYSICIANS

The debate on the motion of G. H. Webster anent the employment of overseas physicians, adjourned from Thursday last, was proceeded with on the motion of the Premier, C. L. Gibbs (Lab.), Edmonton, continuing the discussion.

Mr. Gibbs noted the two questions involved; the responsibility of the Government for Public Health and the necessity for safeguarding the reasonable rights of students of medicine and practising physicians in the Province. Unless the supporters of the motion had instances and numbers of medical doctors who were ready to undertake the work required had been given, he thought the motion of little value. He would support the amendment which would protect every opportunity for the medical men of the Province.

Doctors should not only be encouraged to do frontier work *but should be expected to do so*, said the speaker. Society had done much for them, providing them with training and equipment and giving them a professional status. Social interests should be paramount. If medical men were unwilling to or incapable of doing the work required, then there could be no criticism of the Minister for looking elsewhere.

NEED TO ELIMINATE PROFIT MOTIVE

Mr. Gibbs then dealt at some length with the necessity for the elimination of the profit motive in the services of medical doctors. He could understand the desire of an engineer for bigger and better bridges, of an architect for larger buildings, and even of a lawyer for greater and more lucrative cases; but that a doctor should desire more disease was unthinkable. He paid great tribute to the charity and altruism of the profession; but why should these men be asked to shoulder the burden of social maladjustment? He was appalled at the losses sustained by the poor who were unable to command the services of the medical man. They turned to fake nostrums and were exploited by a soulless commercialism. The people of the United States had spent \$400,000,000 a year on these things.

Mr. Gibbs humorously congratulated the Minister of Health on having joined the ranks of the missionaries. He would now know something of its perils. Let him beware lest he become a side dish at some Medical Association feast. He hoped he would not prove tough. (Laughter.)

STRONG PLEA FOR STATE MEDICINE

The Labor member put forth a strong plea for state medicine. He told a pitiable tale of the North country contained in the report of the Provincial secretary of the Red Cross. Medical services were among the most pressing needs of the people. The late war had revealed an astonishing state of physical decline. Lloyd George had remarked that England had descended from being an A1 nation to a people in the C3 category. There were the grim products of Victorian prosperity.

Concluding an able speech which occupied nearly the full forty minutes, Mr. Gibbs asserted that state medicine was no new thing. Even Saskatchewan had made distinct advances in that direction, by arrangements made through municipalities. He cited a list of the advantages

the Timbuctoo necessary. The only doctor as yet employed, however, was the lady doctor from Montreal.

INTERESTS OF WHOLE COMMUNITY COME FIRST

Donald Cameron (U.F.A.), Innisfail, supported the Minister of Health. He could not see any reason for opposing the importation of doctors but that it might lower the standard of living for the medical profession. Should not the same economic law apply to other classes? He believed that it did. There was over production in wheat which had resulted in the farmers taking twenty-five per cent less for last year's crop than for those of other years. He quoted Roger Babson, the American statistician, to prove his point. It was not, however, a question of the interests of any one class but those of the whole people.

PATTINSON DRIVES HOME A FEW POINTS

Chris. Pattinson (Lab.), Edson, linked the discussion with the question of immigration. There was a clamor for more people. What kind? Just artisans and farmers? There were already 4000 more miners than we had work for. Mr. McGillivray, said the speaker, was opposed to state medicine and yet would bonus rural doctors. It was the same thing. Medicine had been one of the most altruistic of professions, but the canker of commercialism was eating at its heart. Yet he would cite many prominent medical men, and did so, who saw no solution to the problem of public health but that of state medicine. Labor would continue to propagate the idea. The trend in that direction was inevitable. Miners gave \$4 per month to assure themselves of medical service when required. The Minister of Health had mentioned \$2 per month as a possible rate. *What man but would be glad to have protection to the extent of medical service for the sum of \$24 a year?*

SHAW CONTRIBUTOR TO DEBATE

J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader, would not dispute the statement of the Minister of Health as to his duty; but he questioned that the Minister had such abundant

knowledge of all these matters that he could afford to dispense with the advice of the Advisory Board as called for by the resolution. The facts were that he had consulted the Board on at least one occasion last year about many matters. Why not then in this connection? He, Mr. Shaw, was not speaking for the medical profession. He thought that the young men and women not only of Alberta, but of any part of Canada, should have the preference. The amendment offered by the Minister of Health limited the preference to Alberta. The Deputy Minister was not an Albertan. "No," said Mr. Hoadley, "and the Medical Association was consulted."

Mr. Shaw avowed that he would wipe out the University of Alberta medical school if that school did not succeed in imbuing its graduates with the missionary spirit. He did not believe that Canadian doctors were at all inferior to or any less missionary in spirit than those of England. Dr. Banting had discovered that priceless boon insulin, and had given it to the world. If the Minister would come out flat-footed for state medicine he might not find so much opposition as he professed to fear.

The hour of six having passed, the Premier moved the adjournment and hoped that the railway bill could be proceeded with in committee at the next sitting.

Dominion Is Asked to Bear Part of Cost of Highways Building

Amendment to Giroux Motion Carries—Overseas Doctors Discussed Again

WEDNESDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 20.—Remarking that more time had been spent in discussing George Webster's motion concerning the importation of four women doctors from England than had been spent on the budget, Premier Brownlee today called attention to what he described as "a curious phase of our political life,"—the slowness with which under certain conditions, progress could be made with the business of the Assembly. The end of the debate arising out of Mr. Hoadley's plan to bring in these practitioners from overseas, is, however, not yet. This, and the discussion of a motion by L. A. Giroux, calling upon the Federal Government to construct a Federal Highway, and a Government amendment, asking that financial assistance should be given by the Federal Government to the Province, in the carrying on of a construction program, occupied the greater part of the time of the Legislature today and prevented further progress with the railway bill.

During the day, Mr. McGillivray brought forward an affidavit from the husband of a patient who had suffered a broken hand while being restrained in the Ponoka mental hospital, which drew from the Minister of Health the statement that if this method of doing things, without careful examination into the facts, continued, it would presently be difficult to secure persons who would undertake the task of taking care of the mentally diseased.

That there was a danger of the public drawing an altogether unwarrantable conclusion from the speech of Liberal Leader J. T. Shaw, on medical aid in rural Alberta, on Tuesday afternoon

was the opening statement of Premier Brownlee on Wednesday when he took part in the debate on the importation of doctors. He believed that on a majority of occasions Mr. Shaw had impressed the Assembly with his fairness and he, the Premier, could not believe that Mr. Shaw's speech conveyed fully his feelings on the subject. The Government would most assuredly give the preference in any appointment to the doctors of Alberta, all other things being equal. It was emphatically the policy of the Government not to go outside unless compelled to do so. Next to the Province they would try other parts of Canada; then if failing there, they would go elsewhere.

DRIFT TO STATE MEDICINE RECOGNIZED

Again, Mr. Shaw appeared to be defending a certain profession (the doctors) and condemning the Minister of Health. This could only have reference to the travelling clinics. Was Mr. Shaw advocating a cessation of these activities? The facts were that there was no just ground for criticism. Public health was demanding and securing increasing attention everywhere. Here Mr. Brownlee gave excerpts from a magazine article which showed that the chief medical officers of other Provinces were quite

aware of the drift to some form of state medicine.

The Minister of Health had to deal with the problem of the remote area. Doing so he had decided upon a certain policy. The trained persons for carrying out that policy were not available here, so he had gone where they could be secured. They had tried junior doctors in connection with the clinics, but they were hard to get and difficult to hold. The paramount question was the welfare of the people. It was recognized everywhere that this was a step forward. He had personally talked with a prominent doctor in Edmonton who had been out to see a clinic at work and had come back greatly impressed with the service being rendered. The Government had established a policy and were prepared to justify it anywhere, to meet any challenge.

Mr. McGillivray: "Has the Minister offered Alberta doctors \$2,000 a year, with house and transportation?" Mr. Brownlee "Yes, and more."

Unexpected support came to the Government from the Liberal group when L. A. Giroux, Grouard, told of some of the conditions in the pioneer districts of his constituency. There were only two doctors there. He knew of district nurses who by railway speeder, afoot, on horseback and by boat faced extreme weather to render aid to the sick and

save life. He believed that the Government should spend more. He would be prepared to consider state medicine if the present state of affairs continued.

HOADLEY AMENDMENT IS CARRIED

With this declaration the amendment by George Hoadley was put and carried at 4:06 p.m., with a chorus of "ayes" followed by three or four feeble "noes" from the Liberal group.

G. H. Webster, sponsor of the original motion, closing the debate declared that it had covered ground which he had never intended. He, too, having lived the pioneer life, was behind all efforts to make life in remote areas more tolerable and safe. The delay caused by the debate had been caused by "stickers" opposite, including the Premier and two or three Cabinet Ministers." There seemed to have been an attempt to put him in a wrong light. He was not alarmed at the so-called bogey of state medicine. Calgary had wonderful clinics which were doing a great work. He would like to see that kind of service extended to every part of Alberta.

Many doctors were like one from whose letter he quoted "barely getting by". He would retain doctors in outlying districts even if the Government had to bonus them. If the Minister in the particular matter embodied in the resolution had consulted the Advisory Health Board he would have absolved himself from blame.

The amended motion was then put and passed without opposition.

RESOLUTION ON TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY

"That this Assembly is of the opinion that in the National interest the Federal Government should construct and maintain a Trans-Canada highway; and that the Provincial Government should communicate to the Federal Government the views of this Assembly herein" was the resolution that took up the time of the Assembly for the rest of the afternoon. L. A. Giroux, introducing the resolution, drew attention to the lack of inter-Provincial communication by road. He believed that the Government should line up with Saskatchewan in attempting to secure a highway from the Federal Government which would link the Provinces of Canada together.

Hon. O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, stated that the subject had been dealt with on many occasions. A large petition had been signed and presented. The British North America Act placed the responsibility of building roads upon the Province. Conditions had greatly changed since that time. So late as 1910 there were only 5977 motor vehicles in all Canada. Today there were in the neighborhood of a million. The Provinces under the B.N.A. had received about 25 per cent of the total revenues of the Dominion. As the Dominion revenues had increased the ratio had become more adverse to the Provinces, compelling them to resort to many methods of taxation to raise funds. The first Federal act granting aid for highway construction had been passed in 1919. There was more need now than then; but the Dominion Government had gone back on its policy.

Since 1910 the Federal Government had received between \$175,000,000 and \$200,000,000 from motor sources. Tourist traffic was estimated to bring in about \$300,000,000 a year. Unless the Dominion authorities gave some help the dis-

(Continued on page 33)

Weed Problem Is Discussed by Assembly Committee on Agriculture

Proposed Clause in New Act Would Definitely Fix Responsibility With Municipalities
for Control on Road Allowances

Considering in the Committee on Agriculture on February 20th "An Act Respecting Noxious Weeds," members passed a motion offered by Sam Brown of High River that a clause be added to the act providing that "the municipalities be held responsible for the control of noxious weeds on the road allowances." There was almost a full attendance and not more than three or four negative votes were heard.

In the course of the discussion the opinion of W. J. Stephen, Field Crops Commissioner, was asked as to the use of weed burners, and chemical agents. There were two types of weed burners on the market, he said. One using oil was fairly effective but expensive; another was quite effective but used a rack load of straw in about fifteen minutes and therefore took much labor. Chemical experiments had been carefully made. For a dollar and a half an acre seeds could be destroyed but not roots. The railway companies had last year doubled the mileage of weed destruction by chemicals.

M. J. Conner and some few others favored the inclusion of the unorganized territories under the act. Messrs. Peterson and Stringam drew attention to the depletion of trust funds in improvement districts for health and weed control, leaving little for road purposes.

Mr. Stephen outlined what he considered the ideal method of weed control on the roads. Land should be plowed and seeded to grass; in the north, Kentucky blue with white clover, in the south brome grass, sweet clover anywhere. The last named would have to be cut. It was excellent feed.

The keynote of the discussion which

was echoed by many members, was struck by O. L. McPherson when he said that no amount of legislation could effect any marked improvement. It finally came down to the necessity of basic changes in the method of farming.

P. Enzenauer (U. F. A.), Alexandra, gave more point to this statement and a reference to the need of more mixed farming made by the Minister of Agriculture, by saying that in the end the question was economic. It was not possible to get farmers to spend more money in weed control than was economically sound.

Mr. Hoadley explained that under the present municipal act the responsibility for weed control on roads lay with the farmer adjacent. The act would have to be brought into conformity with the proposed amendment. It was a big task. If the improvement districts were not included adjoining municipalities would be handicapped and if they were there would be but little money left for health services, etc.

The member for Athabasca, J. W. Frame, (Lib.), spoke for more stringent measures after visits by the inspector. He would give more power to the commissioner.

Answering Earl Cook, (U.F.A.) Pincher Creek, Commissioner Stephen stated that it was unwise to attempt to eradicate all weeds. Some, for example, the Russian thistle, eradicated themselves by too prolific growth if let alone. Flying seed thistles and stink weed were the serious problem.

C. Y. Weaver, (Cons.), Edmonton, who had made much of the gravity of the weed problem during the debate on the address, asked many questions during the sittings of the committee.

Interests of the United Farm Women

The Opening of Parliament

Over-emphasis on Trappings and Parade—That "Abundant Harvest" —An Amusing Reference to the U.F.A. Group

Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Farm Women:

Again Parliament has opened! Again Ottawa has been the scene of much gaiety; the State Dinner, the Opening of the house, the Drawing Room, and many minor functions.

For a democratic country and a democratic people we do lay a lot of stress on formality at times. The openings and drawing rooms are getting more ceremonious, more formal and more luxurious, and one wonders just where it may lead. Of course there is a happy medium between slackness and ceremony, between precedent and lack of restraint, but it seems to me the tendency is to accentuate the trappings and the parade and dazzle ourselves with the glitter and display.

Occasion of All the Display

All the display, all the booming of cannon, the parading of soldiers, the gathering of aides from different parts of the Dominion, the display of gowns in the Senate chamber, are really merely the occasion for the Government of the day having the Governor General of the Dominion read its legislative policy for the year. I am quite safe in venturing the opinion that there are many who attend who do not realize that, either before or after the ceremony is over.

Of course I know there were many who would contend that all the speech from the throne contained made it such it was not worth consideration. Of course that is a mild exaggeration, but I think the general consensus of opinion is that the speech does not suggest much constructive legislation.

A Paragraph Which Suggests Irony

Those of you who have an abundant harvest most of which has gone "feed," and those hailed out, will be interested in one of the opening remarks of the speech:

"The industry and enterprise of our people have been rewarded under Providence with an abundant harvest. In the production of agricultural and other basic interests all previous records have been surpassed."

It is rather surprising when one arrives in Ottawa to be congratulated so many times on the wonderful crop the West had this year. The papers seem to have conveyed that impression at first and then either did not correct it later or the corrections were not noticed. It really seems strange how little one part of the country knows about the other. I imagine that before the discussion of the speech from the throne is over, the House will receive a little enlightenment about the quality of our "abundant harvest."

In the paragraph on trade and commerce the speech reads: "That the expansion in trade and commerce which the country has experienced has been strikingly reflected in our transportation returns. The net earnings of the railways have exceeded those of any previous year." The loss of grade of grain

makes a very great difference in value to the farmer, but does not affect the railways the same, for the transportation of a poor grade crop is quite as high as one of good grade.

When they (that is the Government, who really write the speech) discuss immigration they tell us: "A flow of immigrants commensurate with Canadian requirements and selected strictly for their ability to promote the general prosperity of the country is being satisfactorily maintained." Reductions are being made in rates and immigration agents stationed in different parts of the United Kingdom. The very best immigration policy the Government could inaugurate for immigrants for the farms is a higher standard of living on the farms and when the farmers are able to maintain that then no advertising could equal it. However, they do not seem to understand going to the root of things.

We hear much more here than in the West of the trade with the West Indies and no doubt that will be of great value to the Dominion, as there are many commodities they can exchange with profit to both. The passenger traffic is being greatly improved. Several fine passenger boats are now running between Halifax and the West Indies and that is getting to be the winter trip of Eastern Canada instead of to California, as with us in the West.

The *Ottawa Journal* has never been a worshipper at the shrine of the U.F.A., I assure you, but they had a rather amusing reference to the U.F.A. members the other night.

"The West—for the time being at all events—is not dangerous. The Progressives, once so militant, have gone. They are all safely in the camp of the Philistines; the most docile, the most easily duped, in some way the most hypocritical group in Parliament. If Mr. King brought a resolution to Parliament that the moon was made of green cheese, the Progressives would vote for it. More than that they would try to justify their vote; they would discover some moral reason for it. That is their way.

"There is, of course, the U.F.A.

U.F.W.A CONVENTION REPORTS

The reports given by U.F.W.A. Conveners to the 1929 Annual Convention are now available in pamphlet form. The reports are summaries of the research work carried on by the Conveners during 1928 on the following subjects: Immigration, Legislation, Health, Marketing, Education, Peace and Arbitration, Young People's Work, and Social Welfare.

Copies can be obtained from Central Office for 10c each or \$1.00 per dozen, postage paid.

They are small and from a voting standpoint inconsequential. But with all their faults, their fussy futility, their impotent tumult and shouting, they are better than the Progressives. They, at least, have been true to their principles—such as they are. They could not be bribed, or cajoled or just fooled. With little or nothing to gain they have stood by their guns; to that extent at all events Parliament is better for them."

Yours sincerely,
H. ZELLA SPENCER.

Activities of the U.F.W.A.

GOOD ATTENDANCE

There was a good attendance at the January meeting of Beddington U.F.W.A. Local, says a report from Mrs. N. A. Beaton, secretary, when Convention resolutions were discussed.

HAD SPLENDID MEETING

"We had a splendid meeting today," writes Mrs. W. M. Turley, secretary of Travers U.F.W.A. Local. "We had lunch at noon instead of after the meeting, so members would not be so late getting home. We are serving supper for a dance, proceeds to be donated to the ball fund."

HAS 39 MEMBERS

Lougheed U.F.W.A. Local now has thirty-nine members, states a letter from Mrs. J. L. Zipperer, Director for Camrose. A membership drive was held by the Local since the first of the year, and at a banquet on February 6th the new members and all the husbands were guests of the old members.

AT HIGH RIVER

A very interesting meeting of High River U.F.W.A. Local was held at the home of Mrs. Kinnear, with a large attendance, says a report in the *High River Times*. Mrs. Kiser and Mrs. McLeod gave full reports of the Convention, and other pleasing features were a solo by Mrs. Lian and a piano duet by Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Kinner.

ENTERTAIN U.F.A. LOCAL

Mrs. Dole and Mrs. McKinnon were conveners of a very enjoyable social gathering, when the Calgary U.F.W.A. Local entertained members of the U.F.A. Local on February 15th, in the home of Mrs. F. MacDougall. Mrs. Guy Johnson won the ladies' prize for bridge, Mrs. Davisson the whist prize, and Mr. Guy Johnson the men's prize for bridge.

ROSELEAF-BLINDMAN VALLEY

The postponed meetings of Roseleaf U.F.W.A. and Blindman Valley U.F.A. Locals were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Wigmore, when reports of the Convention delegates were received, states the *Red Deer Advertiser*. The roll call at the U.F.W.A. meeting was answered by giving current events. At the men's meeting the Local newspaper "The

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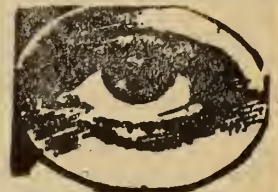
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Local Observer" was read by Mr. E. Schmidt, and proved to be very entertaining.

ELECT OFFICERS

Holborn U.F.W.A. Local at their annual meeting elected Mrs. H. MacDonald as president, Mrs. T. Scott, vice-president and Mrs. D. L. Davidson as secretary. Mrs. Washburn was the delegate to the Annual Convention. It was arranged to hold a whist drive on January 25th and a novelty dance in February.

GAVE GOOD REPORT

Mrs. Edna Madge gave a very good report of the Convention, states Mrs. M. E. Hummel, secretary of Energetic U.F.W.A. Local (at Milk River) at the meeting held at the home of Mesdames Nagel and Friedrich. The program committee had arranged two little contests, Mrs. Madge winning one and Mrs. S. I. Harris the other. Proceeds of a recent dance supper were \$32.75.

DISCUSS EDUCATION

The pamphlet "Rural Education in Alberta" was discussed at the last meeting of Cornwall Valley U.F.W.A. Local, held in the home of Mrs. N. Goodwin, says the *Trochu Tribune*. It will be taken up again at the March meeting. A paper by Mrs. Tovey caused much merriment, especially a comparison of men with chairs. "Some were like mahogany chairs, the polish soon wore off; some were like deck chairs, dragged about; others were like benches, and took more than one woman to sit on them."

VERY MUCH ALIVE

"Our delegate to Edmonton told us that unless we informed Central Office of our doings they might infer that we were dead," writes Mrs. Neil MacLeod, Secretary of Morrin U.F.W.A. Local. "We are decidedly not dead, only so busy we didn't write. Instead of our usual spelling match, we are organizing and helping to finance a School Fair. It was such a task that at first we felt like poor Atlas. Our new officers are Mrs. Alberta Gilrea, president, and Mrs. A. Kellwig, vice-president."

AT NOTRE DAME

The meeting of Notre Dame U.F.W.A. Local, held at the home of Mrs. J. Henderson on February 6th was presided over by Mrs. G. Speer in her usual capable manner, reports the secretary, Mrs. L. J. Devereux. After some community singing, and the roll call, the president introduced the speakers, Misses Clark and Conroy. Miss Clark, superintendent of Public Health Nurses, spoke of the work of municipal nurses for vaccination, immunization and regular inspection of schools, and also dealt with the travelling clinics. Miss Conroy gave a very instructive and interesting talk on home nursing, demonstrating her lecture throughout, says Mrs. Devereux.

CO-OPERATE IN DRIVE

Rosyth U.F.W.A. and U.F.A. Locals are co-operating in a membership drive, which will terminate with a social evening, reports Mrs. Floode, secretary of the U.F.W.A. Local. At a joint meeting held at the home of Mr. B. Bennifields on February 7th, delegates to the Convention gave their reports. Rosyth Juniors held a very successful drive which raised their membership from 16

MEETING OF LOCALS IN MEDICINE HAT

A special meeting of the U.F.W.A. and women members of U.F.A. Locals in the Medicine Hat constituency will be held on March 20th in Medicine Hat (probably at the City Hall), states a circular sent out by Mrs. W. Baker, director pro tem for the constituency. As Mrs. Baker is now living in Edmonton, it will be necessary to elect a new Director, and for this purpose, and also to discuss plans for the advancement of the organization, the meeting has been called.

to 45, writes Mrs. Floode. "The losing side served an oyster supper, followed by a dance, to the members, in the new community hall. It was one of the most enjoyable social evenings ever held in this community. We have found this a very satisfactory way of getting new members. Our meetings are very successful, as we have debates, speeches, and music for entertainment."

ACTIVE YEAR AT CRERAR

Mrs. Hugh McMahon, secretary of Crerar U.F.W.A. Local, sends in the following summary of the year's work: "We sent a delegate to the Annual Convention. In the spring we held a sale of Home Cooking, which brought in \$10.10; \$15 of this was donated to the Forestburg Hospital, and the remainder we divided with the U.F.A. We sent \$5 to the Junior Conference Fund, and \$5 to the Armenian Relief Fund. In July we held a very successful basketry demonstration, under the direction of Mrs. Woods, of Stoney Plain, with about 18 pupils. We held a joint picnic with the U.F.A., our share of the proceeds amounting to \$25.10. In August we held another tea and sale of home cooking, and again made \$40; and again \$15 was donated to the Forestburg Hospital, and the remainder divided with the U.F.A. In October we held a chicken supper, jointly with the U.F.A., and from this we made over \$100. Each new baby arriving in a member's home is given a bank book and \$1. The members made two wool comforters for the minister, who was leaving. We spent \$5 on flowers for the sick, and \$15 for coal and toys for a needy family, besides donations of food and clothing from individual members. We contributed \$11 for dishes to the Ladies' Aid, and helped the community in other little ways. At each meeting we take a collection of ten cents per member; it always helps the treasury. We are planning a social evening for March 15th, and have invited our husbands, also all U.F.A. members, their wives or sweethearts."

GRAND MEADOW PROGRAM FOR 1929

"Hope for the best, prepare for the worst, and take what the committee gives you," is the opening quotation for the first meeting of the 1929 program of Grand Meadow U.F.W.A. Local. For this meeting the roll call is "Aids to Beauty" and there is a demonstration and talk on care of the hair and hair-dressing, as well as a paper on "Laws Pertaining to Women of Alberta." The February meeting is given over to Convention reports; for March the roll call is "Suggestions for School Lunches," and a debate, "Resolved that in the best inter-

ests of education, Municipal School Districts be formed in Alberta," is scheduled. The April meeting will comprise a roll call on "Suggestions for Tree Planting," a demonstration on mending silk stockings, and a paper, "How Science Helps Agriculture." An exchange of plants, seeds and slips, a demonstration on mending table linen, and a dramatization will make up the May meeting, while for June a demonstration of physical exercises is planned, as well as a paper on "Scientific Temperance" and a roll call—"Name a pest and tell how to exterminate it."

Talks on Authors

At the July meeting, each member will be asked to bring a picture of a noted place in Alberta, and a collection of labels from Canadian products; there will also be several short talks on Canadian authors. For the August meeting, each member is asked to contribute an original limerick to begin, "A maid of Ponoka 'twas said—", and there will be a demonstration on how to know good materials and several short talks on birds. Instead of the roll call, at the September meeting, members will be asked to recite or act a nursery rhyme, and a prize will be given for the best performance. A demonstration on short-cuts in sewing and a paper on the pre-school age child, will complete this program. An address on Peace, by Hon. Mrs. Parlyby, holds chief place in the October program; there will also be a discussion on the principles of right dressing, and a roll call on "Pure Gold or Dross in Magazines." The program for November includes a roll call, "Tempting Hot Supper Dishes," an exchange of patterns and a talk on current events. Election of officers, Christmas present suggestions, and a discussion on "What Item I Enjoyed Most in the 1929 Program," constitute the December program. A hostess is named for each meeting, who is expected to be responsible for some musical items, or other entertainment. Officers of this Local for 1929 are: Mrs. Walter Larsen, Mrs. L. Russell, Mrs. P. Iverson, and Mrs. Hudson Jones.

Seasonable Recipes

By AUNT CORDELIA

Mock Marble Pudding: Melt 1 cup brown sugar in 2 cups boiling water, add $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon salt; when it boils up, add slowly one-third cup tapioca; then 2 tablespoons butter and any flavoring desired. May be served plain, or varied by adding chopped nuts, raisins or dates.

Salmon Souffle: A good supper dish can be made of a can of salmon and a can of peas. Remove skin and bones from a can of salmon and mash. Melt 2 tablespoons butter, add 4 tablespoons flour, 1 teaspoon salt and $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon pepper and 2 cups milk; bring to the boiling point, stirring constantly. When thick, remove from the fire, and add the salmon, a can of peas (drained) and, if liked, 2 tablespoons chopped green pepper. Pour into a greased casserole, squeeze the juice of half a lemon over the top, sprinkle with bread crumbs and small bits of butter. Bake about 45 minutes in a moderate oven.

Coffee Cake: Cream $\frac{3}{4}$ cup butter or other shortening with 1 cup of sugar, and add 2 eggs slightly beaten. To this add 1 cup strong coffee and 1 cup molasses, in which 1 teaspoon of soda has been dissolved. Sift 1 teaspoon cinnamon, $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon cloves, and a little nut-

meg with $2\frac{1}{2}$ cups flour and add to mixture. 1 cup of raisins may be added.
—Mrs. H. H. Turner, Battle Beaver U.F.W.A. Local.

Hermit Cake: 1 cup brown sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ cup butter, 2 eggs, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder, $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups dates, 1 cup chopped walnuts, flour enough to stiffen, not too much. For icing, boil until it threads 1 cup white sugar with 4 teaspoons water; stir 1 cup stoned dates with beaten white of egg; then mix both together, and beat until the right consistency to spread. This cake will keep nicely, writes Mrs. C. V. Wood, Belmont U.F.W.A. Local, who sent it in.

"The U.F.A." Pattern Department

Send orders to *The U.F.A. Pattern Department*, Lougheed Building, Calgary, allowing ten days for receipt of pattern. Be sure to give name, address, size and number of pattern required.



402. Ladies' Dress.

Cut in 5 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, and 42 inches bust measure. For 38 inch size with or without the yoke facing on the back 5 yards will be required 39 inches wide. For facing on belt and cuffs $\frac{1}{4}$ yard will be required cut crosswise. The width of the Dress at the lower edge with plaits extended is 62 inches. Price 15c.

6422. Dress for the Junior Miss.

Cut in 4 Sizes: 14, 16, 18 and 20 years. A 16 year size requires $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards of 40 inch material. For yoke portions, belt and bow of contrasting material $1\frac{1}{2}$ yard 40 inches wide is required. Price 15c.

[Don't forget to give size and number.]

SAME FUSS AND FEATHERS (Western Producer)

Slavery, duelling, snuff, polygamy, whiskers, piracy, hoop skirts, trial by ordeal of fire and water, and human

sacrifice have been abolished to a large extent, but we still open Parliament with the same fuss and feathers as were the custom when the King of Babylon received a visit from a Persian potentate.

A Press Opinion on the New School Act

(From the *Stettler Independent*)

The Trustees' Convention at Lethbridge voted against the proposed rural School Act by a large majority.

We could hardly expect these boys to support the scheme. The new Act would take away from them the privilege of selecting teachers. This would amount to quite a curtailment of their powers, and there would be the same chance for the majority of the Trustees agreeing to this phase of the scheme as there would be for any other body to agree to a curtailment of their privileges. We don't blame the Trustees for looking at the matter in their own particular light. That is the natural attitude to take. At first sight as a town school Trustee we thought this was a weakness of the scheme, but we have come to the conclusion that the selection of teachers either by the town or rural school boards is a pure gamble, and that it can be done much better by a central board. The local school boards could make their recommendations when a local teacher applies.

The proposed School Act, if it is passed, will not be supported by the majority of the Trustees. Its support will come from the people in general, especially from those who are parents of children. There is no question but that the people in general are dissatisfied with our rural school system. It is badly in need of reform. It is at the same stage in Alberta that the school system of Ontario was fifty years ago.

The people of the rural districts cannot long continue to allow teachers to be selected by three men putting their hands into a hat and drawing out the names. Of course, the Trustees don't actually use that method, but in the majority of cases teachers are selected with the same amount of pure gamble, that such a procedure would call for. If the rural school trustee is perfectly candid he will admit that he cannot make an intelligent selection of a teacher from a list of forty or fifty names, simply because he has not the right kind of information regarding the teachers in question. Town Trustees generally admit that the selection of teachers is a gamble except in the case of local applicants who are well known personally.

The reform of the rural school is based on the proper selection of teachers. Select the right kind of teacher and he or she can do good work in a log school house. Select the wrong teacher and no good work can be done even in the finest equipped school. The proposed Act recognizes this fact, and, for that reason, Mr. Baker proposes that the selection of teachers be done by a divisional board under the guidance of the chief inspector, and subject to the recommendations of the local boards. This is the logical way to make selections, because all the information necessary to make an intelligent choice will be on hand. The people will have the same powers as before, as the members of the divisional board are elected by the ratepayers.

The reason that town schools are not included in the scheme is not on account of this phase of the scheme, but because

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there is no way of adjusting the taxes levied between town and country. In the towns the taxes are based on improvements and in the country they are based on the land itself. But as far as the selecting of teachers is concerned, the rural school Trustees would be farther ahead to have little to do with it. Their recommendations would, undoubtedly, have influence in special cases, and that is as far as they need to go.

We are confident, that when this matter of selecting teachers is given further consideration, the system of central control will win out. It is used with success in selecting ministers of churches, managers of banks, and for branches of all business corporations.

EFFECT OF TREE PLANTING

"The planting of trees on prairie farms in Western Canada is having an appreciably beneficial effect on the quality and variety of agricultural production," states the Department of the Interior. "The large and growing distribution of planting material made from the nursery stations of the Department of the Interior

at Indian Head and Sutherland, Saskatchewan, is gradually changing the general appearance of the prairies in the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and the development of shelter-belts is being followed by the setting out of apple and small fruit orchards, gardens of fine vegetables, and by further beautification of prairie homes with shrubs, flower beds and extensive lawns."

THE NATIONALIST MYTH

"The nationalist myth, now enjoying a new lease of life in Canada (which will of course, follow world fashions as unintelligently as any other country) has a long way yet to go, even though an opposing tendency, in the form of economic good sense and a very real humanism, has developed rapidly since the war and is now recognized even by the newspapers. When this development is complete, nationalism as we know it will be looked upon as illustrative of a barbarous though picturesque age in which advanced forms of superstition oddly co-existed with amazing scientific progress."—Marcus Adeney, in *The Canadian Mercury*.

U. F. A. Junior Activities

Watchword: SERVICE

Motto: EQUITY

Are All the Young People in Your Local?

Dear Juniors:

Have you every available young person in your district joined up in your Local? If you have, you are extremely fortunate and we rejoice with you in this, but if you haven't, now is the time to secure new members. The U.F.W.A. Board is offering two prizes to the two Junior Directors whose constituencies gain the largest increase in membership from the beginning of January to the end of May, compared to the membership for the same period last year. The prizes are to be maintenance expenses at the Junior Conference for all but the one day already provided for by the U.F.A. And as the railway fare is also provided for Directors, this means that two Junior Directors this year, will be able to attend University Week free of charge. Why not have the Director of your Constituency gain this privilege? It is just as much up to the Locals as to the Directors to win this prize for the honor of the Constituency. Come on everyone. Get to work and see who'll win these prizes.

And while busy with this membership contest, don't forget the Efficiency Contest. A new questionnaire is being planned for this year, and further details will be announced later, but in the meantime, keep your attendance as high as possible and continue to follow as closely as possible the four-fold plan.

Then too, there is the Public Speaking Contest which will most probably be held again this year and of which you will most likely hear further in the next issue. Get your members into shape to take part in this at the Conference in June. Those medals are worth winning.

And have you heard of the Handicraft Contest which the Alberta Branch of the Canadian Handicraft Guild is holding the first two weeks in June? This should be of great interest to our members and if

you have not already heard from Miss Montgomery, Secretary of the Guild, write her at the Extension Department, University of Alberta, Edmonton, and ask for full information regarding it.

With such a large number of contests to take part in, our Junior Locals should not find it difficult to interest young people in the work. We hope that every Local will enter each Contest, and we wish you all the very best luck.

Faternally yours,

EDNA M. HULL,
Secretary.

OFFICERS FOR 1929 CHOSEN

The annual meeting of the Battle Beaver Juniors was held recently and the following officers were chosen to serve during 1929: President, Muriel Fiss; vice-president, Reggie Morrow; secretary-treasurer, John Bateman, and supervisor, Mrs. Ruby Bateman.

ELECT OFFICERS

"We had a very enjoyable time at our last meeting at the home of our advisor, Mrs. S. Thomas," writes the former secretary of the Avondale Juniors, Miss Doris Johnson. "We elected our officers for the year, Miss Doris Gray being chosen President, Howard Riddle vice-president and Martha Johnson secretary. We are holding our meetings at the home of our advisor for the present."

HELPING WITH EQUIPMENT

The annual elections of the Stanmore Junior Local resulted in Miss Amy Adams being returned as secretary, Mary Anderson being elected president, and Charlie Burton vice-president. A social committee consisting of Grace Levens, Christine Zachariassen, Margaret Andrews and Myrtle Zinger was also elected. It was decided that a shadow social be held March 1st for the purpose of raising more money for school yard equipment.

PLAN CARD TOURNAMENT

The February meeting of the Bismark Juniors was held at the home of Miss Lily Archibald. The delegate to the U.F.A. Convention, Bob McDowell, gave a short talk on the Convention and was followed by Miss Lily Archibald, who gave a most interesting talk on Junior U.F.A. activities. It was decided that a card tournament should be held for the next three months, and if possible to make arrangements, a St. Patrick's dance on March 15th. At the conclusion of the business program, the card tournament was commenced, and later on a lunch was served.

WILLOWDALE JUNIORS

At the annual meeting of the Willowdale Juniors, Bernard Blades was re-elected president, Clara Bruce, vice-president, and Jonathan Toule, secretary, leaving the officers the same as last year. During 1929 the Local had a membership of sixteen. Receipts during the year amounted to 154 dollars and disbursements were 110 dollars, leaving a balance in the Local of forty-four dollars. Activities followed were: an entertainment in the spring, a joint picnic with Senior Locals, a chicken supper, a weiner roast, lantern slides, whist drives, and fortnightly meetings throughout the year. Two delegates were sent to the Junior Conference and two were also sent to the Camrose Provincial C. A. Convention.

ACTIVE WORKERS

At the Annual Meeting of the Waskatenau Juniors, which was held at the home of Mrs. D. C. West, the following officers were elected for 1929: President, Earl Toane; vice-president, Jack Henery; secretary-treasurer, Jean Warr; assistant secretary, Harvey Lunn; editor of local paper, Francella West; publicity secretary, Dorothy Warr; supervisor, Mrs. A. H. Warr. Mr. Francis Fry was chosen as delegate to the U.F.A. Convention. On January 19th the meeting was held at the home of Mrs. R. Lewis. Financial reports were read, and following this a sleigh-ride was enjoyed, the party returning to Mrs. Lewis' home for lunch. Nine members of the Local are taking up the Leading Course, and a series of debates are to be held, the first, on February 16th is "Resolved, that the new mail service by airship is superior to former methods." A play is being rehearsed and will be presented on April 5th.

New Junior Locals

At Meanook, the George Lake Juniors have organized, with eight paid up members. Stanley Moore is secretary.

Conjuring Juniors have been organized in the Leduc District. There are twenty-one paid up members, and Thomas Bell of Millet is president, Ruby Faulkner of Leduc secretary.

Rocky Coulee Juniors were organized by the Senior Local at Nobleford with six paid up members. Officers chosen are: Milton Heward, president; Charlie Heward, secretary; and Elmer Brown, treasurer.

Rosewood Junior Local, at Galahad, held a re-organization meeting February 1st, when eight members signed up. Mary Peake was elected president, George Laing vice-president, and Pearl Pugsley secretary for 1929. An enter-

tainment committee was also chosen and this Committee immediately began to plan for a valentine Social to be held February 15th.

A new Junior Local was recently organized eight miles south of Alix, with a membership of eighteen, ages ranging from 12 years to 23. The president is Arthur Keeton and the secretary Ellis Stone.

WHY THE COLLIE IS RESTLESS

(By JOSEPHINE Z. RINE in *Nature Magazine*)

The collie or Scotch sheepdog, one of the oldest breeds in existence, is probably the fountain head from which all shepherd types have sprung. The name comes from the Anglo-Saxon *col* meaning black, referring to the black-faced sheep of the Scottish Highlands, and in its later form, *colley*, signifying sheep. Almost as far back as records go, the sheepdog has been the constant companion of the shepherd and his flock. England, Wales and Russia all had their sheepdogs, developed differently according to the climate, the type of land and the breeds of sheep herded. But the work of all was the same; they guarded sheep and shepherd both and out of the largeness of their responsibility came a mentality rarely equalled in the world of dogs.

The work of the collie gave him the manner and disposition that he has today. He is restless, for centuries ago he was always on the move, rounding up his charges and nosing back into the fold those that strayed too far. For this reason he does not go directly at anything; he goes round as if the pull of heredity bade him always travel in a circle. When he fights he does not hold fast; he merely nips here and there as if the past had taught him that small animals are weaker than he, hence require mild chastisement rather than real injury. But he is a staunch protector when need arises, and he fights furiously when once aroused.

He is big and powerful, and his profuse, two-ply coat defies wind and weather in any mood. His legs are straight as arrows, fine-boned but strong. His head is long after the fashion of the sheep tenders and of those dogs that have not been perverted away from their naturalness. His ears are up and over at the tips to catch the veriest fraction of a sound. His eyes are small and bright and farther seeing, probably, than those of the great majority of his race. And such popularity as he possesses must be deserved. The Scotch collie may well be described as "the descendant of a race of caretakers"

"A contradiction between word and deed, between life and thought, always spells disaster to the latter, as we think with our whole personality."—Lord Ennismore.

THE SUBSTITUTE

Husband (testily, after going down badly at bridge)—You might have guessed I had no heart, partner.

Wife—Quite; but I thought you had a brain, darling.

SPORTING LUCK

"My brother has been in Africa for the last year, and has just come home. He has been hunting tigers."

"How exciting! Did he have any luck?"
"Rather! He never met any."

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EDMONTON BRED SOW SALE—March 6th

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E. L. HOLMES, Secretary, Arena, Edmonton

Bulwark of \$100,000,000 Protects Sun Life Investments

Unique Financial Position of Company Discussed by President Macaulay in Annual Address

MONTREAL, March 1.—The phenomenal growth and success of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada lends widespread interest each year to the annual address of the President, Mr. T. B. Macaulay.

The annual meeting, which has just been held, disclosed a continuation of this expansion, but it was more noteworthy still for an announcement, almost startling in character, by Mr. Macaulay regarding the financial strength of the Company. He stated that so carefully had the directors anticipated every possible adverse contingency in the money market that even a panic which would reduce the value of the assets by one hundred millions of dollars, would still leave untouched and unimpaired the shown surplus and reserves of the Company.

Mr. Macaulay dwelt as well in a most interesting and illuminating manner upon the relative merits of the varied securities in which insurance companies invest their funds, and of how traditional views on investment have altered owing to the changed conditions of modern business. He said in part:

"It is a great pleasure to move the adoption of this report, for the record it sets forth is a remarkable one.

"A mere statement of the increases over the figures of the previous year is impressive. In income the increase is \$41,972,000; in assets \$87,650,000; in surplus \$9,157,000; in new assurances \$112,836,000; and in total in force \$408,925,000. A company with total business equal to these increases would be a large and powerful institution. It is but three years since we rejoiced at passing the mile-stone of \$1,000,000,000 of assurance in force, and yet already we are nearing \$2,000,000,000, while at this moment our assets exceed \$500,000,000.

"But there is another feature even more striking and important. Advance figures indicate that the increase over the previous year in the new business written by the combined life companies of the continent was approximately 8 per cent., and the increase in the combined total in force approximately 9 per cent. Against these percentages let me place the figures of the Sun Life: our new assurances increased 34 per cent., while our total in force increased 27 per cent.

"I need not further emphasize the rapid expansion of our business. It is but a continuation, though in accelerating degree, of our normal condition. That the Company is extraordinarily popular with the insuring public is evident. But people will hardly show so pronounced a preference without reason. That reason unquestionably is the great strength of the Company, and its unusual profit-earning power. The earnings announced in the report are slightly in excess of \$40,000,000; but it is clearly intimated that had we desired to do so we could have taken credit for a much larger amount. We, however, follow our usual conservative policy. We always have before our minds the possibility of a business depression, which might occasion heavy shrinkage in market values of all classes of securities. Mortgage securities may at such a time become totally unsaleable, but that fact is not patent; while every fluctuation in the prices at which stocks and bonds can be turned into immediate cash is quoted on the Stock Exchange.

Securities Heavily Undervalued

"I have decided to take our policyholders into our confidence in the most complete way, so that they may realize how fully our directors have provided against any contingency of this kind. You will notice that we say that the values quoted are those given by the government department or lower. There is much in those two words. They mean that the values given in the report are approximately \$62,500,000 less than the actual current values of those securities on the Exchanges. Then we have the additional deduction from market values of \$20,000,000, referred to in the report, and also the special contingency reserve of \$12,500,000. These items total \$95,000,000, and our unlisted assets and other margins raise the amount to \$100,000,000.

"This means that the market values of our securities could shrink by \$100,000,000 without reducing our surplus by one dollar. Such a shrinkage is of course almost inconceivable. I indeed doubt very much if even the catastrophe of (ADVT.)

another world war could produce so drastic a depression. Supposing it did, we would still have intact our undivided surplus of over \$54,000,000. We are hardly likely, I think, to be criticized for lack of conservatism. I do not know any other financial corporation which has its assets so protected. I imagine we are more likely to be told that we have been too conservative; if so, that is a criticism we must endure. Our safety margins may perhaps be unnecessarily large, but safety must be our paramount consideration; and if, as we confidently anticipate, the margins prove not to be required, they will in time be available for distribution among our policyholders. And what possibilities for our policyholders do these margins represent!

Praises Canadian Law

"But let us look further into our earning power. There are many contributing factors: energetic, yet cautious and economical agency management; careful selection of risks; conservatism in always retaining a considerable proportion of our earnings to build up protective reserves;



T. B. MACAULAY, President

and, above all, specialization in the safe and profitable investment of the funds.

"Our investment policy is in fact a distinguishing characteristic of the Company. Our development and prosperity would have been impossible but for our investment policy, and our investment policy could not have been pursued but for the wise investment provisions of our Canadian Insurance Law. That law stands before the world as a monument to the wisdom of our Dominion Parliament. Companies of many other lands are either permitted unwise freedom, or are hampered by restrictions, equally unwise, which prohibit investment in many of the most desirable securities. The Canadian Act, by contrast, permits reasonable freedom to the companies, while fully safeguarding policyholders.

Investment Provisions

"It may be timely to summarize briefly the provisions of our law. They permit investments in: first mortgages (up to sixty per cent. of the appraised value); government and municipal bonds; corporation bonds secured by mortgage; preferred stocks of corporations which have paid dividends for the preceding five years; and common stocks of corporations which have paid dividends for the preceding seven years, such dividends being not less than four per cent. per annum, or \$500,000 per annum in amount. These provisions avoid the extreme both of unwise freedom and of harmful restriction. To my mind they are almost ideal.

"Our list of assets shows that we own securities of large amount in all classes authorized by the Act.

"With the great growth of the Company, the problem of investing its constantly increasing fund becomes more and more important. What avenues are open to us? As for mortgages, we are most unwilling to establish agencies in distant centres, of whose real estate values, conditions and dangers, we know nothing. That would be to entrust the safety of our investments, even to a large extent the safety of our Company, to the judgment of strangers. Government and municipal bonds yield but low rates of interest. As for bonds of corporations, we must face

(Continued on opposite page).

(Continued from opposite page)

the fact that apart from occasional railway and public utility issues, the strongest corporations are rapidly redeeming their obligations, and no longer need to borrow. Desirable bonds therefore represent a constantly decreasing field.

"For a very considerable part of our investments we must, consequently, look to those classes of common stocks which are authorized by our Canadian Act. Fortunately, when the same degree of care as is necessary for safety in selecting mortgages and bonds is applied to the selection of common stocks, especially within the conservative limits laid down by the Act, these selected securities are, in the judgment and experience of the thoughtful and well-informed, among the choicest and safest of all investments and by far the most profitable and desirable.

No Magic in 'Bond'

"Consider mortgages. What company has not suffered losses, and sometimes very heavy losses, on its mortgage investments? As to bonds, some people seem to consider that there is magic security in the label 'bond.' This popular belief is not supported by experience. The surplus earnings and margins of many companies, over and above the dividend requirements of their stocks, are much greater than the surplus earned by other companies in excess of the interest requirements of their bonds. Few experienced financiers would claim that the bonds usually offered are safer than, or even as safe as, stock of such companies as the Montreal Light, Heat & Power, American Telephone and Telegraph, Commonwealth Edison, and many others I could name. The payment of the interest on the bonds is certainly no more sure than the payment of the dividends on the stocks. In the very unlikely event of the dividend on any such choice stock being reduced, it would be certain to be far more than offset by increases in the dividends on others. Our own average interest rate has been steadily mounting year after year, due solely to increased dividends and bonuses received on our stocks beyond the rates payable on those stocks when we purchased them. As an illustration, take the common stocks purchased by us in 1923; the actual cash yield from these in 1928, represented a return of 2.38 per cent. on the purchase price greater than the dividends payable on these stocks at the time of purchase, while the average value of the rights and bonuses received during the intervening five years has amounted to a further .38 per cent. per annum.

Only Tested Securities Purchased

"Our Canadian law wisely excludes stocks of all companies that do not have a long record of dividend paying and prosperity. But we go much further than that. We limit ourselves almost entirely to corporations that have attained outstanding financial strength, with great reserves and resources already established, that supply some product or service essential to the life of the community, and that usually are dominant in their respective spheres. Such corporations have their roots deep in the life of the nation they serve, and are almost part of the nation itself. The nation cannot grow and prosper without their growing and prospering. The operations of such corporations can hardly fail to expand, and their profits to increase, surely and steadily; and this is but another way

of saying that the stocks of such select and outstanding corporations can hardly fail to be of greater intrinsic value five, ten and twenty years hence than they are today.

"Let me repeat what I have already said on many occasions. We do not speculate. We buy to keep. We never sell the stock merely because it has risen to a high figure. Stock exchange quotations influence our decisions as to whether we should buy a security, but not as to whether we should sell. If quotations be high, we can ignore them, and, in fact, do ignore them.

Policyholders' Profits Again Increased

"There is no department of a Company's business which deserves closer study and investigation than the investments of its funds. No other department will give such a generous return for the attention devoted to it.

"It is to its investments that our Company owes its impregnable position, and the magnitude of the profits in which our policyholders rejoice. Many years ago I expressed the hope that I would be able to announce an increased scale of profits every year for at least ten years. We now make that announcement for the ninth successive year, and I certainly cannot say that I expect the increases to stop with even the tenth announcement. Our profits are accumulating as never before, and it is inevitable that a larger and larger proportion will be disbursed to our policyholders with the passing years.

A Company with a Soul

"But there are other features to which my mind reverts with pleasure. One of the most delightful compliments I ever received was when I was once introduced to an audience as the president of a corporation that had a soul. That this was no mere phrase is shown by the sympathetic comradeship that exists between all ranks of the Company's service, both at head office and in the field. It is seen also in the enthusiastic support accorded us by our legions of policyholders. Our relationship with them is something more than that of mere business co-operation. The sense of mutual confidence and mutual appreciation is so strong as to be akin to friendship, and it is as our friends I like to think of them. This delightful relationship is the reward of unwearied and successful service on their behalf and it is a reward which is greatly prized.

The Bill Before Parliament

"I will now say a few words about the Bill we have before Parliament. There has been so much misunderstanding and misrepresentation about it that I think you would like a plain statement of the facts.

"The original Charter, granted in 1865, authorized the Company's capital at \$4,000,000. An amending Act passed in 1871 contained a somewhat ambiguous clause, which has been interpreted in some quarters as limiting the capital to \$2,000,000. Five eminent legal authorities to whom we submitted the question assure us that the original authorization was unaffected by that amendment, but advised us that it would be well to have the matter put beyond doubt by a brief clarifying Act of Parliament.

We do not ask that the capital be increased; we merely ask that our right to issue stock up to the amount originally authorized be freed from legal ambiguity by a simple declaratory clause.

"But why do we require a larger capital than the present \$2,000,000?

"Chiefly for two reasons:

"(1) Because the present capital is manifestly out of all proportion to the magnitude of the Company's operations. It is absurd that a Company, whose assets are already \$500,000,000, should be controlled by a capital of \$2,000,000.

"(2) Because we wish to ensure that this great Company shall never fall into undesirable hands. We cannot alter the status of our existing shares, but we can impose restrictions on the transfer of the new shares which will be an effectual safeguard.

"It has been said that such an increase would divert from the policyholders profits properly belonging to them. This is the exact opposite of the truth.

"The Insurance Act allows stockholders to receive ten per cent. of the profits distributed from the participating branch. Our stockholders long ago reduced their share to five per cent. All our contracts for thirty years past have been made on the agreement that the participating policyholder shall receive ninety-five per cent. of these profits, and that right any of our members could enforce in any court of law.

Policyholders to Benefit by Bill

"The amount of profit accruing to shareholders cannot be increased or in any way affected by higher capitalization. It is impossible that any increase in capital could injure the policyholders; on the other hand, every additional amount paid in by the shareholders gives additional security. And no additional capital will be issued except in return for actual cash.

"The small percentage of profit allowed to the stockholders is their share or commission for guaranteeing and managing the Company. Under the management of the stockholders, the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada has grown to huge proportions. Its agencies encircle the globe, and it has done much to make Canada known and honored around the world. It has become one of the greatest financial corporations in existence. Its policies protect hundreds of thousands of homes. That its operations have been conducted to the great advantage of its policyholders is sufficiently evidenced by this report. And, as I have said, our policyholders may confidently anticipate even greater benefits in the future.

"For another reason, however, our policyholders have the strongest interest in desiring the Bill to pass, for, should it succeed, our directors have agreed to recommend to the stockholders that their proportion of profit be reduced to four per cent, thus increasing the policyholders' proportion to ninety-six per cent., and correspondingly increasing their individual profits.

"I can think of no proper objection to the Bill. It will injure nobody, and will help everybody; policyholders most of all. I am very sure that our policyholders throughout the land will agree with us.

"I apologize for speaking at such length, but it appeared to be necessary.

"I now move the adoption of the Report. It is, I venture to think, one of the most eminently satisfactory and noteworthy reports ever presented at an annual meeting. It records the transactions of one of the greatest, strongest and most beneficent corporations in the world, and it is worthy of the Company."

(ADVT.)

Some Suggestions for the Solution of the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation Problem

Member of Legislature for Macleod on Past Mistakes and Possibilities of the Future—Urges Classification of Lands Upon Basis of Productivity

Some interesting suggestions with regard to the stabilising of the Lethbridge Northern Irrigation District were presented to the Assembly in the debate on the budget by W. H. Shield (U.F.A.) Macleod. After analysing what had been done in countries which had found themselves in similar positions regarding irrigation projects to Alberta, and the remedies found or suggested in those countries, Mr. Shield urged that a classification system should be inaugurated, based on productivity of the land, a special requirement being that the farmers themselves in local organizations should be consulted in regard to the determination of the various classifications.

Then, again, rates should be adjusted by this schedule, and charges should be calculated on a basis of 5 per cent of the gross acre income as estimated over the preceding ten years, or full period if the project has been operating less than ten. By adding a year and dropping the first year, this would be kept up to date, and would provide for dry years as well as good.

The member contended that this method would insure security of tenure to the settler by reason of adjusting payments to his yearly income. This system had been asked for by U.S. water users in the Salt Lake City convention.

Mr. Shield prefaced his remarks by saying that with the railway problem solved, the problem of the Lethbridge Northern was likely to assume first place as the most difficult and embarrassing Provincial problem. The Government, which had been forced into the position of landlord and principal creditor of the settlers, was called upon to protect both the interests of the general public and to allow the settler a sufficient portion of his production to maintain a reasonable standard of living for himself and family, and to provide capital for a continued development of his holdings.

Harsh Strictures Unwarranted

Referring to "harsh strictures" which he had heard made upon those who forwarded the organization of the project and the administration which had guaranteed the bonds, Mr. Shield said these were largely unjust. There was agreement among settlers, technical farmers, business and financial interests and the press, that the project was justifiable and would produce good results. Possibly unequalled pressure was brought to bear upon the Government by such interests, including U.F.A. organizations, with a view to obtaining assistance in financing. All concerned acted as other bodies of citizens would have done in similar circumstances and with similar knowledge of the facts.

Mr. Shield answered the charge that settlers were "actuated by a belief that they could profiteer from increased land values" by saying that though a few absentee landlords might have had some such intent, farmers generally viewed with reluctance the idea of having to break up their holdings, and while they knew this to be necessary, they believed that

"sales of this surplus land would retire old obligations and place the new

enterprise on a secure basis financially." Had this materialized the history of the project would have been vastly different. The settlers, however, had been compelled to make a sacrifice of their surplus land as a contribution to the general good. Seventy per cent of the settlers now on the project were newcomers who could be charged with no responsibility for past errors.

Mr. Shield gave an extended history of irrigation development in many parts of the world. He took the members with him on a word picture trip of conditions in United States, Australia, and the Union of South Africa. Here we witnessed conditions pretty much similar to our own. Rapid and keen expansion in all cases, and where these projects were developed under private initiative, it was found that the Governments of the respective countries had been forced to take the projects over to save the fragments.

Amazing amounts had been written off in order to stabilize the situation. New South Wales, in addition to large grants and other expenditures, had written off the sum of \$1,714,000. Victoria had written off \$3,040,000. That was capital, arrears of interest amounting to \$1,714,000.

In the Union of South Africa it had been the same. This country most nearly resembled Alberta. Then turning to the U.S., the member found the same experience. The Federal Commission appointed to investigate had reported, and the member quoted from that Commission's report.

The Major Mistakes Made

The major mistakes that have been made were enumerated as follows:

1. Building of projects entirely from an engineering standpoint, assuming water in itself would increase revenues.
2. Lack of thorough scientific consideration of the probable power of the project to enable the farmer to pay construction costs and to win a living from the lands.
3. Assumption that all lands, good, indifferent or poor, can bear the same annual construction payments.
4. Making an arbitrarily fixed percentage of cost the basis of annual repayment.
5. Neglect of provision for settlement of surplus lands.
6. Neglecting to provide credit facilities and direction to settlers.
7. Lack of assistance in organizing the settler for efficient marketing of his products.

"In my opinion," went on Mr. Shield, "this very exactly sums up the mistakes made in irrigation enterprises undertaken in Alberta, and applies with particular force to the L.N.I.D. What so far has been done towards rectifying them? Following Dr. Widstoe's investigation and report in 1925, the Lethbridge Northern Colonization Act was passed by this Legislature. The policies laid down by this Act have dealt very efficiently with

settlement, have provided technical direction, and a measure of assistance in providing credit facilities and marketing service. They have not dealt with the variations in the productive ability of lands, nor altered the basis of repayment of costs, although they have, by providing for a low annual charge in the first six years of settlement, postponed in some measure the effect of these mistakes in policy. On the other hand, the sliding scale of charges has introduced a larger element of uncertainty of the future on the part of the settler, and to that extent hindered normal development."

Mr. Shield said full credit should be given for the results already achieved. Settlement had more than doubled, and there was a similar increase in investment in buildings, equipment and livestock on the project. He enumerated the effects of this development, in the revival of old towns and the springing up of new ones, and in many other directions, but said that there was nevertheless a universal feeling of misgiving as to the future on the part of the settlers, accentuated by the severe losses of the past season from hail and frost, with unpaid charges for 1928 of \$3.25 per acre, plus penalties and a similar charge for 1929 to meet out of this year's charges, and the prospect of an increase of \$1 per acre in charges in 1930.

The member had noted with pleasure, therefore, the item of \$15,000 in the estimates to provide for survey and reclassification of irrigated lands as a first step toward this end. There was a wide variation in soils, from heavy clay strongly impregnated with alkali, to a porous sand soil and subsoil and yet at present all paid equally on the schedule of rates.

Co-operation With the Settlers

A further suggestion was that the Government should follow the procedure outlined by the Department of the Interior of the U.S.A., in reclassification, in which the farmers were recognized as the best judges of the productive power of their lands, who should be consulted, classifications being submitted regularly to the local organizations of ratepayers before adoption. Another idea worthy of adoption from the U.S. Commission was that charges should be calculated on a basis of 5 per cent of the gross acre income, as estimated over the preceding ten years, and compiled for each separate classification of soils. "To begin with a shorter period would be necessary, when the ten year date was complete, each succeeding year would be added, and the first year of the period dropped," said Mr. Shield.

"This system has many features to recommend it. It would provide for years of crop failure, as well as good years, as the effect of each would be spread over the ten year period. It would meet the objection raised to a rate revision, because of the future potentialities of the district increasing its paying ability, by providing a scale of payments commensurate with the progress made. It would ensure security of tenure to the settler by

reason of adjusting payments to his yearly income."

Data should be carefully compiled, not subjected to exaggerated crop reports. The system of repayment proposed was asked for by the water users at the Salt Lake City convention.

In conclusion, the member for Macleod said past mistakes were admitted, but there were compensating factors which offset to some extent the loss imposed on public funds. Legislatures, moreover, were constantly voting monies which brought no direct return, but from which the public benefitted by a fuller development of the natural resources. He cited examples from other countries, including New South Wales, which in no case had ceased from development. Just as railroad and other expenses in the north had assisted in the development of Alberta's resources, so the irrigation projects were playing their part, and undoubtedly this aspect of the matter would receive increasing recognition as years went by.

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE

(Continued from page 23)

advantages from which Canada suffered with respect to roads as compared with the United States would be increased. Federal aid was given to the various states.

MCPHERSON MOVES AMENDMENT

A Trans-Canada highway would mean the setting up of an inter-Provincial road authority all over Canada. He would offer an amendment as follows:

That all the words after the word "should" be stricken out and the following words substituted:

"Assume a portion of the cost of construction of Highways of Inter-Provincial or National importance, and that this Government urge upon the Federal Government the views of this Assembly."

J. T. Shaw said that the Dominion Government had definitely abandoned its former policy of Federal road grants, but it had never said that it would not construct and maintain a national road. He would like to see unanimity in the Assembly on the matter.

J. R. Love could not see how if the B.N.A. precluded Federal assistance of Provincial Governments for road building, it could be construed to permit of that Government building and maintaining a road through the Provinces. One Trans-Canada highway would not satisfy, for example, Calgary or Edmonton. He agreed that highways ought to be constructed so as to make available the national parks. Between 17,000 and 18,000 tourists had registered at the Wainwright Buffalo park last year. It were much better to ask the Dominion House to assist in this than to build ONE highway.

DOMINION TURNS OVER EXPENSIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Dominion Government had encouraged technical education, agricultural research, and road building by grants and then turned these responsibilities over to the Provincial Governments, said Premier Brownlee. In the latter they were now refused further assistance. He did not wish to appear antagonistic to the Federal Government; but he was not willing to sacrifice rights and convictions.

The question was whether this Assembly would join with that of Saskatchewan

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FOR the preparation of a clean, well-filled, moisture-holding seed bed in the easiest and quickest way, use the latest Massey-Harris Cultivators. They are most effective in operation because they are three-purpose machines built specially for weed destruction, moisture conservation, and soil cultivation. Farmers appreciate the great "Three-Way" clearance of Massey-Harris Spring and Stiff-Tooth Cultivators. This provides great space in the three important places: 1—Under the frame; 2—Between the rows of teeth; 3—In the zig-zag passage ways. Trash and weeds clear readily and quickly.

STIFF-TOOTH CULTIVATORS

Massey-Harris No. 15 Stiff-Tooth Cultivator is very strong in its construction. The frame is high at the back, giving a high lift which allows the teeth to clear the trash when gangs are raised. The teeth can be set for shallow, medium, or deep cultivation. This machine, when fitted with wide points, is particularly suitable for cutting thistles and similar weed growths. The Massey-Harris No. 15 is made in 6½ ft., 8 ft. and 9½ ft. sizes, hand or power-lift and in the 11 ft. size, power-lift only.

SPRING-TOOTH CULTIVATORS

The latest Massey-Harris Spring-Tooth Cultivator is known as the No. 19. The new gang construction is strong and rigid, holding the teeth firmly and definitely. The teeth can be set for shallow, medium, or deep cultivation. This cultivator can be had in 6 ft., 6 in. and 8 ft. sizes hand or power-lift, and in 10 ft. size, power-lift only.

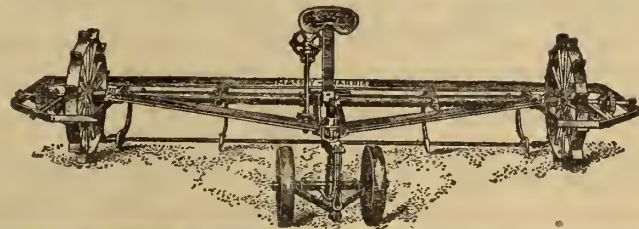
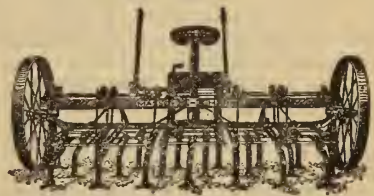
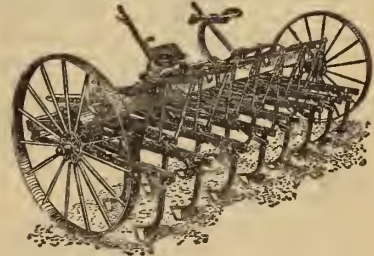
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A very popular implement for cleaning out quack grass, etc., is the Massey-Harris No. 14 Spring-Tooth Lever Harrow which can be had in 6 ft., 9 ft. and 12 ft. sizes. This harrow is very strong and durable and its spring-tooth action is very effective in cleaning out grasses.

ROTARY ROD WEEDER

Another very effective destroyer of weeds is the Massey-Harris Rotary Rod Weeder. It is two-wheel driven, has a strong steel frame and a strong pipe axle. It works a 12 ft. width and the depth is controlled by a convenient hand wheel.

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I am convinced that the non-poisonous Weed Killer is the cheapest and most effective way for us to eradicate the Canadian and Sow Thistles and am anxious to hear from farmers who want to see it used in their community.

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THE BRIGMAN TANNERY
SASKATOON, SASK.

in pressing for a Dominion built and maintained road; or line up with the rest of the Provinces in requesting further disbursements of Dominion revenues for road building by the Provincial authorities. Ontario would benefit greatly by the former scheme but its spokesmen had seen the unfairness of the proposal. The Dominion would be called upon to build a highway through the wilds of Northern Ontario.

This matter was before the House at Ottawa this session as it was embodied in the amendment and not as presented by Saskatchewan. He was convinced that something would have to be done, as the disparity between road conditions in Canada and in the United States was becoming greater each year.

McGILLIVRAY FAVORS ASSISTANCE TO PROVINCES

Conservative Leader McGillivray believed that the Federal Government should come to the assistance of the Provinces. If Canada were to preserve its entity, trade should be directed as much as possible along east and west routes. He favored the Trans-Canada highway. The amendment was put and carried at the close of his speech.

Closing the debate on the motion Mr. Giroux spoke with some bitterness of the appeals made from the Government side of the Assembly for co-operation. Why oppose a scheme which had at least some chance of fulfillment because offered from the Liberal benches, he asked? He maintained that Quebec was also with Saskatchewan in the matter. The Premier dissented from this view.

The vote was called for and the "ayes" gave assent to the amended motion.

Assembly Deals With Estimates for Public Works in Province

Additions to Government Offices in Edmonton—Question Raised in Purchase of Property

THURSDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 21.—Voting sums aggregating over \$2,000,000 for the undertakings of the Department of Public Works during the coming fiscal year was the concluding item of work for the Legislature this afternoon. The complete estimates for that Department total over four and three quarter millions, but the process of passing on the details was arrested by a question from A. Matheson (U.F.A.), Vegreville, when under the item "Sites and Construction of Public Buildings" he asked two questions about the first: the necessity of spending half a million dollars on new Government offices in Edmonton and second as to a statement made by the Minister of Public Works at a previous sitting of the Assembly that no commission had been paid by the Government to H. M. E. Evans, the vendor of the C.J.R. Lodge and adjacent property.

The Minister of Public Works, Mr. McPherson, gave as reason for the proposed building program the paying of heavy rental in the city, the unsatisfactory condition of the old brick-veneered Provincial buildings and the crowded state of the present Government buildings.

Answering J. T. Shaw, in connection with Mr. Matheson's second question,

Mr. McPherson stated that the Government had dealt with a reputable firm, had paid their price and had no knowledge of the original vendors. He submitted that this was proper business practice. Mr. Shaw, he challenged, could never be assured that any price was the rock-bottom price.

The remaining \$2,160,565 of appropriations from that department will be the first set of items dealt with on Friday.

The other important feature of the afternoon's sitting was the reply of the Minister of Health to suggestions of maladministration at the Ponoka Mental Hospital.

FORMER DEPUTY AND ELECTRICAL POWER

Requesting from the Government a report of the Baxter findings on light and power, immediately after opening today C. Y. Weaver (Cons.), Edmonton, received from the Premier the reply that there was no written report. The Government had heard Mr. Baxter several times and he was prepared to call the Executive Council and prepare a report from their findings in the matter.

J. T. Shaw asked that before the Assembly was called upon to consider the report of the Minister of Health on conditions at Ponoka Mental Hospital, a table of the number of those injured in the institution for each year since 1924 be made available to all members of the Assembly.

Mr. Hoadley presented to the Assembly a statement from Dr. E. G. Cooke, the superintendent of the Mental Hospital, of some length going into the case in detail, with reservations, in which he said that the statements in the statutory declaration of the husband in the case of Mrs. Carrie W. Swartzenberger "were not true and were entirely without foundation."

Mr. McGillivray tried to suggest that the woman had suffered permanent injury and questioned concerning the liability of the Government. He was prevented from pursuing the enquiry by Speaker George Johnston ruling that the subject be dropped till the formal presentation of the report.

The Assembly then gave second reading to the following bills: An Act to Amend the Drainage Districts Act; An Act to Amend the Irrigation Districts Act; An Act to Amend the Savings Certificates Act; An Act to Amend the Provincial Loans Act; An Act to Amend the Treasury Department Act; An Act to Amend the Religious Societies Act.

Resolved into Committee of the Whole under the chairmanship of Deputy Speaker M. McKeen, of Lac Ste. Anne, the Legislature then rapidly passed through the fourteen sections of Bill No. 41, "The Alberta Government Railways Act, 1929." It was not debated or amended in any particular except to provide for the signatures of the parties designated by the purchasers being appended. It is now practically law, awaiting merely the third reading and official assent of the Crown.

TO DOUBLE MOTOR PATROL FORCE

In Committee of the Whole, appropriations for the Department of Public Works received attention. Among the interesting statements arising out of the discussion was that of Mr. McPherson that the Department contemplated the doubling this year of the motor patrol force on the main highways. There were now eleven motors at this work. It was their policy to proceed as fast as possible in this direction, though there were

places where it would still be advantageous to use horse patrols.

The Minister also stated that because there was as yet no considerable general through traffic on main highways he did not think it equitable to remove snow from those highways for the benefit of the local traffic which was fortunate to be contiguous to those roads. The snow fences tried had proven satisfactory during the past few weeks, when they had really been subjected to their first test.

In answer to C. L. Gibbs (Lab.), Edmonton, Mr. McPherson stated that it was true that the Department did not have a registered architect in its regular employ. In connection with one of the buildings under consideration a consulting architect had been brought in. The building superintendent, was, however, a highly skilled man, having practical knowledge of building. His work he believed would stand inspection and was of no discredit to the Department or the Province.

Mr. Gibbs was of the opinion that it did not encourage the profession of architecture, a profession which had a special function in the erection of buildings, that in the carrying out of an extensive program such as was being considered, a registered architect was not being employed.

J. T. Shaw endorsed Mr. Gibbs and maintained that the special knowledge of an architect was necessary to assure complete safety as well as to safeguard the aesthetic values in large public buildings.

It was at this point that the member from Vegreville, Archie Matheson, found himself supported enthusiastically from the opposition benches in connection with the commission involved, if any, in the purchase of the Ninth Street property. When the discussion had proceeded for some time, Mr. Matheson took occasion to say that he was not undertaking to act as a special investigator for the Liberal leader.

The Minister of Public Works stated that the necessity for greater accommodation for Government offices was very pressing. Since the recent fire the old building down the hill was in poor condition and it had never been suitable for its present purposes. If any new branch of government work were introduced he doubted if a single room could be found to spare. There was a possibility at any time of the Government having to create a new Department. With respect to the suggestion of some irregularity in connection with the purchase of the site for the new Government buildings, he could only say that the transaction had been conducted in the regular and approved manner. Any purchaser was dependent in the ultimate analysis upon the honesty of the vendor's agent.

MAN IN SOCIETY

"When we want a waterfall to generate electricity we do not say it is bad and wicked because we have to take some trouble to persuade it to do the work. Why not try the same attitude with man in society? Treat his aptitudes and desires like the rushing water as data that are given, and that we do not judge but utilize with skill."—Mrs. Bertrand Russell in "The Right to be Happy."

Products produced from the forests of Canada have an annual value of about \$475,000,000, of which approximately \$450,000,000 is distributed for labor, equipment and supplies.

Inquiry by Public Accounts Committee Into Gov't Purchase

Shaw and McPherson Sponsors of Motion
—Juries' Costs in Civil Cases

FRIDAY'S SITTING

EDMONTON, Feb. 22.—“On a matter of public importance” the business of the Assembly was temporarily set aside today when Capt. J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader, begged leave to offer a motion in connection with the recent purchase of thirteen lots and the buildings thereon known as the C.J.R. Lodge, “that the Public Accounts Committee be convened and that Mrs. Amy P. Bunn and Mr. Bunn be subpoenaed to appear before that committee.

The Speaker ruled that the matter was not of such urgency that it could not have been presented through the usual procedure of the Assembly. Mr. Shaw appealed from the ruling. The Speaker maintained that the Liberal leader was out of order. He had not given in writing to the Speaker the necessary facts to enable him to judge as to the urgency. Premier Brownlee also attempted an explanation, but was called to order in turn. “This question is closed,” said Speaker Johnston, in his deep bass tones, “Next order.”

The question was not to be ruled out, however; for after the laying on the table of some returns, it was moved by Hon. O. L. McPherson, Minister of Public Works, whose Department was under fire in the matter, “that the rules of the house be suspended and the motion offered be allowed.” This was carried.

SHAW EXPLAINS REASON FOR MOTION

Mr. Shaw, thanking the Minister of Public Works for his courtesy, recalled that he had asked questions relating to these purchases of land some two weeks ago. He had made an investigation into the transaction. The urgency of the matter lay in the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Bunn, having received this windfall, were about to go to England in the course of the next few days. Mr. Shaw read the affidavits of value from the transfers made out to cover the transactions. He showed that eleven of the lots, some of which had been purchased from the City of Edmonton, were sworn to have a value averaging \$2,822, and Lot Thirteen next to the C.J.R. Lodge, a value of \$3,000, while Lot Twelve, upon which the C.J.R. Lodge stands, had a value sworn at the sum of \$16,635, with improvements valued at \$30,000. There was surely a big discrepancy here. It was to ventilate these matters that he moved this motion. The motion was seconded by the Minister of Public Works and carried.

Mr. McPherson, in seconding the motion, said he would not enter into any debate at this time, but would wait till the meeting of the committee. He would remark, however, that a reputable firm had been employed; that a number of properties were involved; that to negotiate as a Government with owners of property were extremely unwise; that options had been secured and considered in the regular way; and that even this very day he had received a proposal in connection with the very property in question involving the lease of the building



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thereon, which if accepted would return seven per cent on the Government's investment.

He would also remark that there was a tendency on the part of the public, when a matter was brought up in this way, to believe something wrong when nothing was wrong. He was willing and eager for a complete investigation.

EXPENSES IN CIVIL JURY CASES

Consideration was next given to a motion on the order paper by Conservative leader A. A. McGillivray: "That in the opinion of this Assembly the practice of requiring litigants who have trial by jury in civil jury cases to pay the expense incident to the summoning and holding of the jurors should be abandoned."

Mr. McGillivray assumed that trial by jury was desirable and should be continued. It was usually invoked by the poor and the humble and not by the rich. It was generally the case of a working man against a corporation. The right could not be exercised, however, unless the litigant could afford or find the money. In the judicial district of Calgary the sheriff required a deposit of \$250 as a condition of proceeding with the case. It was said that the money was taxed against the unsuccessful litigant. Why pay at all? The litigant was not asked to pay the salary of a judge, directly; why then the fees and expenses of the jurors? Either course was his right at law. We boasted of British justice and of the right to trial by a jury of one's peers. Why then attach a money value to the right? Mr. McGillivray concluded by hoping that the Government would attach no political significance to his motion.

Mr. Lymburn, Attorney General, replying, stated that the Government took no stand on the matter. There was no uniform practice in Canada. In criminal trial by jury the state bore the expense. In civil cases one party to the litigation deposited the money. The practice in B.C. and Saskatchewan was the same as that in Alberta. In Manitoba common jury trial was at the expense of the state, but certain fees were exacted from special juries. In Ontario the practice was similar to that of Manitoba but the cost was borne by the country. Mr. Lymburn maintained that the proposal introduced an unsafe element into disputes on civil matters. Lawyers had been criticised because they clung to the jury system. The opinion was prevalent that the trained legal mind and silver tongue could with "windy rhetoric" sway a jury but could not make the same impression on the trained judge. The jury system had arisen to prevent tyranny in the days of despots; it was doubtful if it had the same effect today. He preferred to have the system remain as at present.

Avowing his belief that trial by jury in civil cases should be abolished, but that until it was all litigants should be on an equal footing whether they had or had not money, L. A. Giroux, (Lib.) said he would support the resolution.

WHITE POINTS OUT AN EXCEPTION

Fred White of Calgary, leader of the Labor group, took the opportunity to point out that the Section of the old N.W.T. Act, which prevented certain persons (inmates of asylums) from having trial by jury had not yet been repealed.

On the matter in hand he would say that if all had the right of trial by jury there should be no disability on account of poverty.

Replying to Mr. White, Premier Brownlee stated that this section had been the subject of recommendations made to the Federal Government two years ago, together with an amendment to the criminal code. There had been some confusion in the correspondence over the matter.

PREMIER IS OPPOSED TO MOTION

While the Government had no policy on the subject of Mr. McGillivray's motion, he was not in favor of it, and would vote against it. The people had created and maintained a court to which litigants had free recourse; if they chose to take some other course then they should be prepared to bear some share of the expense. The other policy, that of the Manitoba or Ontario Governments, involved an additional expense from the public purse of \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually. He believed that a counsel to the general public would be a better method of meeting the need of poor litigants.

J. T. Shaw, Liberal leader, stated that the constitution of the United States provided for trial by jury. In Canada successive limitations had been placed upon that right. Juries brought common sense to the findings of fact, and received their direction at law from the judge. If the litigant paid for the costs of the jury, why not for the judge and the overhead expenses of the court?

R. H. Parkyn, (Lab.) Calgary, thought that working men serving on juries should receive the equivalent of their wages and not as had been the case with himself, when he was the bread winner for seven children, about 30 per cent of his wages over a period of three weeks.

A. Matheson (U.F.A.) Vegreville, agreed with Mr. Giroux. There were two classes of people, one, brought up in a sheltered life and another in the school of hard knocks.

W. M. Washburn, (U.F.A.) Stoney Plain, asked what recourse had a litigant who received from a jury in civil trial damages that were recognized as excessive.

MCGILLIVRAY GIVES HIS SUPPORT

Mr. McGillivray, closing the debate, answered by saying that it was the right and duty of a judge if the verdict was "shocking to the conscience of sensible people to set the verdict aside." He thought that it was absurd for the Attorney General to maintain that jurists who were highly trained for criminal cases were not equally highly trained for civil cases. This motion was not concerned, moreover, with the question of having or not having trial by jury. The rights of property were safeguarded by the jury system from the days of Magna Charta just as much as the right of life and liberty. Why put a price upon the one right and not on the other?

The Conservative leader wondered why the Attorney General should side slap the legal profession. Was he not himself a lawyer? Trial by jury was a bulwark of liberty.

The motion was put and the Speaker decided that the Ayes had it. Mr. McGillivray requested a recorded vote; so the first division of the session took place. The verdict was eighteen for the motion, twenty-nine against. The following U.F.A. members supported

the solid phalanx on the other side of the Assembly: Sam Brown, High River; A. Matheson, Vegreville; J. R. Love, Wainwright; S. A. Carson, Sturgeon; George Mihalcheon, Whitford; and P. Enzenauer, Alexandra. Five of the non-Government members and eight of the U.F.A. group were absent.

Resolved into committee of the whole, the Assembly turned again to the estimates and found itself confronted with the very figures which had been the cause of the vexed question of land purchase in the previous hour. A. Matheson was not yet satisfied. He had no fault to find with the action of the Minister of Public Works, but he wanted to know if the Minister had thought of employing an agent at a stipulated fee, to accomplish the purchase.

C. L. Gibbs, (Lab.) Edmonton, interjected that it might have saved some money to the city of Edmonton.

Lorne Proudfoot, (U.F.A.) Acadia, remarked that any approach of the Government to the city for the acquisition of any such property would have made for a good deal of activity.

J. T. Shaw, "There was the weapon of expropriation."

The Minister: "Would Mr. Shaw have used that weapon?"

NO IMPROPER CONDUCT SUGGESTED

The Premier: "It was not used at Ottawa. The buildings there were scattered all over the city." This Government could have bought one site at a time, also; but to carry into effect a scheme which had to do with the future and had an eye to the beautification of the city, plans for which had been laid years ago, was another matter. They could have gone to the city and perhaps councilmen would have been silent; but Ministers were followed everywhere. They had secured a reputable firm. They could not have bought any part of the site without first assuring themselves of being able to complete the purchase. The property was partly potential business property; and they might have had to pay large sums for it had they waited. Surely the leader of the Liberal party did not suggest any improper conduct on the part of the Minister or the Government? Mr. Shaw admitted that he did not.

Mr. Matheson believed it to have been a good stroke of business; but thought the method of purchase might have been better.

Mr. Shaw: "Could not the Government have employed some responsible officer to purchase in the manner of the railway companies or say, the Hudson's Bay Co.?"

Mr. Brownlee: "In the ultimate the Government had to decide what was a fair value. If the agent were crooked the Government suffered; if honorable the decision as to value lay with the Government."

Mr. Shaw had no objection to the Government exercising foresight.

The Premier said "in the last analysis if anything was wrong it involved the reputation of a business firm of some standing. This was in a house (The Assembly) covered by privilege."

Col. C. Y. Weaver (Cons.), Edmonton, "Was it fair or just to place a firm in the position of being tempted to raise the price so as to make more commission?"

The Premier: "This man was so highly thought of by the former Liberal Government as to have been given a place upon the finance committee."

Mr. Proudfoot believed that the safest

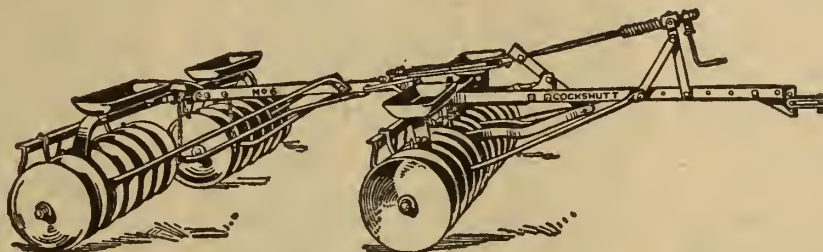
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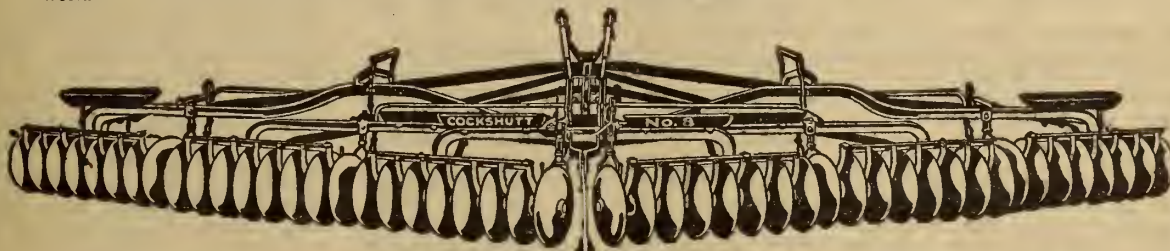


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way was to list the property in the usual way.

The Minister of Public Works, dealing with the suggestion that the agent might have induced the vendor to raise the price said that the ultimate issue was the integrity of the agent. He challenged the leader to prove that the property could have been bought for \$35,000 within the past six months. Mr. Shaw said he was not familiar with conditions in Edmonton. He would say that the responsibility rested with the Government not with anyone else. One lot had cost over \$16,000 while the adjoining lot sold for \$3,000 at a valuation sworn to by a subordinate of the Minister. Mr. McPherson replied that Mr. Shaw had started out in a sensational way to insinuate something against an officer of the Department. He wished him to know that the Government accepted all responsibility.

The matter closed for the time being till the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee. The appropriation of half a million for the sites and buildings in question was passed.

PONOKA MENTAL HOSPITAL

Continuing discussion of the appropriations for sites and buildings the committee found itself held up again at the item standing against Ponoka Mental Hospital. Mr. Hoadley, giving details of the proposed expenditure, showed that plans for greater accommodation had been under way before the reception of the Hincks-Farrar report. The proposed vote would greatly aid in the completion of this plan.

J. T. Shaw raised once more the whole question of conditions at the hospital by stating that he would like to have Dr. Cooke come before a committee of the Assembly and lay before them his requirements. Public confidence, said he, must be restored.

Mr. Hoadley, replying with great earnestness, was convinced that more unrest was being caused by what was being said unnecessarily in the Assembly, than by anything that had happened. It was manifestly unfair for anyone in the Assembly to insinuate against Dr. Cooke and his splendid staff of assistants in this difficult work. It was easy to bring before the public a few instances where something had gone wrong. Everyone knew that from the very nature of things it was impossible to produce the hundreds of cases restored by treatment at Ponoka to a state of sound mental health. The incidents of the past two days had been a disgrace not to Ponoka but to the Assembly. Members had apparently said, "Let us probe here to see if we cannot find something that will disturb the public and discredit the Government." Humanitarian considerations should have first place.

THE QUESTION OF QUALIFICATIONS

Premier Brownlee would not deny, said he when rising, the liberty of the members to bring any subject before the Assembly. It would appear, however, that it was a question of the attitude to be taken by the Assembly to those in this very difficult profession. Were the members of the Legislature capable of passing judgment even after hearing Dr. Cooke as suggested? He asked that between then and the consideration of the Hincks-Farrar report the members take themselves seriously to task as to their qualifications to pass judgment in this matter. For himself he would confess his complete inability. Only twenty-three of the seventy-eight

similar institutions in Canada had attempted to get away from the methods employed at Ponoka. He had framed a resolution covering the case that had no political tinge.

J. T. Shaw resented the criticisms of the Minister of Health. He recognized the ability of Dr. Cooke.

The Premier: Could Mr. Shaw give a judgment superior to that of the Hincks-Farrar report?

Mr. Shaw did not want to make political capital out of the situation. He had not attempted to do so, he said. He wanted the public to be assured that unhappy incidents of this character would not recur. He was ready for any method that would secure this.

BEST MEN

AVAILABLE SECURED

The Premier stated that he had felt strongly about the Ponoka trouble. It was doubtful if a single institution of this kind in the world had escaped this kind of thing. What help to either patients or people were these revelations? The Government had secured the best men available in Canada to report on the institution.

Col. C. Y. Weaver rose to defend his leader in his absence against the Minister of Health. If satisfaction had been given in the case of the thefts at Oliver these matters might not have been brought to the Assembly. He asserted that the members of his group knew their duty better than the Minister.

Mr. Brownlee, replying, stated that the Oliver case was different. Theft was one thing. Dealing with mental cases was another. He moved that the committee rise.

At that moment Mr. McGillivray returned to his seat and rose to protest that he had no apology to make for bringing the Swartzenberger case before the Assembly. He was not impressed with the character of the Hincks-Farrar investigation. This woman had suffered through negligence. He would have the house know that he had that day filed with the Clerk of the Assembly a demand for an enquiry under a judge, public, if necessary.

Mr. Brownlee: "We are making progress. On the one hand we have a demand for a committee of the House; and on the other for a judicial enquiry." The Assembly adjourned till Monday.

Report of Dr. Cooke-- Swartzenberger Case

Statements of Affidavit Untrue, States Medical Superintendent

The report of the Superintendent of the Ponoka Mental Hospital, Dr. G. H. Cooke, on the case of Mrs. Swartzenberger referred to in the reports of the Legislature is summarized below:

Mrs. Carrie W. Swartzenberger was admitted on Sept. 10th, 1928. She was quiet, but her physical condition was poor; her clothes and her body were very dirty, and there were a few bruises on her legs. On the morning of the 11th it was reported to Dr. Tallman that she had attacked a nurse standing by, with apparent homicidal intent. As no single room or cage-bed was available she was put into restraint (camisole jacket) with arms crossed in front of the chest and the ends of the sleeves of the jacket secured behind, for her own protection and that of the staff. Her mental condition was one of excitement; she screamed at intervals and there was confusion as to time

and place. There was no change in her condition until the 16th, when it was reported that the patient's right arm was swollen and painful. About four inches above the elbow there was a furrow encircling the arm, about the size of a lead pencil. The patient was unable to move the forearm or fingers, but there was no interference with the function of the shoulder joint. Dr. Fitzpatrick, acting Medical Superintendent, held an inquiry, and found that the patient had been in restraint the night before, the same form being used as previously (the camisole jacket). The conclusion reached was that the patient, who was restless, had caused the end of the right sleeve, which had been passed around the body and attached to the right upper arm, to pull tight, with the result that the arm was constricted. There was no evidence of any fracture or dislocation. The limb was treated by powdering, wrapping in cotton wool, and elevation to facilitate drainage. Later, it was painted with picric acid to prevent infection and reduce irritation. There were no cuts, abrasions, or ulcers present. The latter treatment was repeated once or twice a day, later skipping a day until Sept. 27th. On Sept. 28th dry dressings were instituted, and later light massage was instituted, and muscle re-education.

Until November 7th the mental condition of the patient varied; at times she was restless and excited, and at other times comparatively quiet and cheerful. The unsettled mental condition made it difficult to carry out treatment, and she frequently removed dressings. Later, co-operation was much better. As her mental condition improved, she was allowed to get up, and was sent to the Occupational Therapy Department to do reed work, in the hope that this would help to restore the lost muscle function of the forearm and fingers. On discharge, flexion of the elbow was quite good, although complete extension was apparently impossible; she could execute coarse movements of the fingers, but the finer movements necessary for sewing or writing were apparently lost.

Statements Quite Untrue

The report concludes: "The statements in the Statutory Declaration of Mr. Swartzenberger that his wife was inhumanely treated, that her right hand was broken in the first few days, that her elbow was dislocated and that she was tied down to her bed for nearly two weeks, are not true and are entirely without foundation, nor was she improperly detained in the Hospital, as the correspondence on file will show."

"On November 17th, Mr. Swartzenberger asked if, in our opinion, his wife would be well enough to be discharged on December 15th. She was actually released a week later."

"This is the first accident of the kind that has ever happened in the history of the Hospital and could not possibly have occurred if the knot had not slipped."

"It is stated on good authority that in the average person constriction of a limb for only an hour will cause paralysis of the muscles below that point."

Mr. Swartzenberger's statement as to the condition of his wife before her admission to the Hospital was that although she weighed only about 120 lbs. it took four men to manage her. On one occasion when she came out of her bedroom he saw that she looked rather queer and had caught her by the arm; and then she said in German that she would get him first. He said that she got hold of his arm and he had to call for help to the other three men who were out in the yard.

Dr. Cooke Reports on Death of Patient

Assault of Fellow Patient Led to Death of James Walsh

The report of Dr. Cooke, Medical Superintendent of Ponoka Mental Hospital, regarding the death of James Walsh, following an assault by a fellow patient, states that this man had been an inmate of the hospital from February 28th, 1913 to April 24th, 1913. He was re-admitted on August 14th, 1923, with an attack of manic-depressive insanity. His condition was such that he had lucid intervals of three or four months; the attacks were of a manic nature, and were quite severe. In May, 1925, his left foot began to exhibit gangrene and was amputated in July of the same year. With this exception, and a tendency to collapse during an excited period, his health had been excellent. He had never been reported as having been impulsive during an attack or at other times.

On February 1st the patient Walsh showed mild excitement, always an indication that he was about to go into a manic phase of manic-depressive insanity. On February 2nd the excitement was more pronounced, but not sufficient to require isolation.

How Assault Occurred

On the evening of February 3rd, when two nurses and one male attendant were present in the ward, Walsh was standing by his bed, which was nearest the door, and muttering to himself, in a gruff and indistinct voice. McCausland, who was having his supper with other ambulatory patients in the day room, left his meal, entered the room and said to Walsh loudly, "What are you saying?" Walsh slapped McCausland lightly on the cheek, and McCausland immediately struck Walsh a blow on the nose with full force. Walsh wavered, but did not fall or lose consciousness. The nurse immediately ordered McCausland out of the dormitory, put Walsh in charge of a male attendant, and phoned a doctor. The nurse had no reason to believe that Walsh was ever quarrelsome, or that McCausland had anything against him. Patients on the ward corroborated the statements of the nurse and attendant, as summarized above.

The statements of Dr. Bolen and Dr. McCullough, who reached Walsh about five minutes after the attack by McCausland, were to the effect that he had sustained a fracture of both nasal bones, and bruises of both eyes, and exhibited a marked degree of shock. Further examination elicited no other abnormal physical condition. He was removed to a single room, and 1-4 grain morphine was administered, because he was quite excited, voluble and restless. On the four successive days Walsh was seen by Dr. Furst and, although his manic condition had fully developed, his physical condition was good and it was thought by Dr. Furst that the blow had no detrimental effect.

Walsh Succumbs

About midnight of the 8th it was reported to the doctor in charge, Dr. Tallman, that Walsh did not appear very well. Dr. Tallman and Dr. Cooke immediately visited him; he was suffering from what Dr. Cooke thought a state of collapse and suitable treatment was instituted. In the morning, Dr. Furst was called to see him; he was in a state of almost complete collapse. He re-

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Prices for Oats:

1st Generation	2nd Generation	3rd Generation
No. 1.....\$2.50	No. 1.....\$1.75	No. 1.....\$1.40
No. 2.....2.00	No. 2.....1.60	No. 2.....1.25
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Price for Wheat:

1st Generation	2nd Generation	3rd Generation
No. 1Sold Out	No. 1.....\$2.60	No. 1.....\$2.20
No. 2Sold Out	No. 2.....2.40	No. 2.....2.00
No. 3Sold Out	No. 3.....2.00	No. 3.....1.75

Above prices subject to 5 per cent discount for carload lots. Seed Grain tariff applies.

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W. J. STEPHEN, Field Crops Commissioner,
Department of Agriculture
Edmonton, Alta.

acted moderately well to treatment, but succumbed at 4:15 p.m.

Dr. H. S. Vango, who performed an autopsy, stated that death, in his opinion, was due to acute meningitis "which would entitle me to consider his condition due to the injury to the nose."

The verdict of the jury was to the same effect, with the rider that "We believe that greater facilities for the segregation of various types of mental patients should be provided at the Institution."

The patient McCausland had not, according to Dr. Cooke's report, threatened or assaulted any nurse or patient with one exception, when separating two other patients who were quarreling.

PARTYISM IN THE LEGISLATURE

(Continued from page 16)

making laws; acting at times like a boy's debating club having a field day. Men known to have espoused certain principles—for example that of public ownership of utilities—find themselves by the turn of the political wheel seated next to those who have unfailingly opposed that principle.

At the Provincial Mental Hospital a man dies, apparently of ill treatment at the hands of attendants. Though the Government orders an investigation, and the findings of the commission are made public, the Liberal leader and the Conservative leader join hands to suggest by questions that the Minister of Public Health is indifferent to the welfare of these unfortunate wards of the state. There is a deliberate attempt, made possible through a press, sections of which are only too ready to publish any scandal that will sell issues and reflect discredit on this Farmers' Government, to make capital out of other incidents occurring at this institution. One mental patient hits another on the nose. The victim dies. It might have occurred anywhere. It is extraordinary that fatal results should have followed the attack. Partyism crops up again. The opposition wishes to know if the Minister of Health has a report on the subject. A poor unfortunate woman has to be restrained. She hurts herself in the process. The Conservative leader (shades of Disraeli and Macdonald) does not find it incompatible with his dignity to bring to the august chamber a mis-conceived statutory declaration, from the husband of the poor unfortunate that she had received ill-treatment from the Government's employees. The next day, to defend himself and his subordinates, the Minister of Health is compelled to produce a report making public unsavoury details in connection with the case.

To meet a crying need in outlying districts the Minister of Health makes arrangements to employ five lady doctors. One of these is brought from Eastern Canada. Four others are engaged in England. With an eye to the press gallery, well aware of certain antipathies and national prejudices that are being fostered, the party leaders, and some of their followers, make it appear that the legitimate claims of the medical profession in Alberta and the Dominion are being ignored.

Life moves on, however. Facts are stubborn. People who live in shacks on the frontier, women who suffer in isolation on the farm, men who pay with hard labor and sweat, while anxiety and care furrow their faces and make prematurely

white their hair, live close to reality. They see through the flimsy veneer of talk. They recognize the sinister hand of self-interest. They have no use for these survivals, no matter how hoary their tradition.

A sweet reasonableness comes at times even over the party leaders themselves. They are bound to recognize the force of sincerity. Their own followers are often significantly silent. Occasionally they break loose from their restraints. There is more than a little ground for the belief that a strictly party system will never again prevail in this Province. Independence of thought has a startling and disconcerting way of asserting itself. Whatever the future composition of the Legislatures of Alberta, it is safe to say that not for long will the working people of this Province whether agriculturist, industrialist, commercial or professional, tolerate a system that is outworn, out-of-date, and most thoroughly inefficient. The words of Tennyson come to mind:

"Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws."

Public Works Report Contains Survey of Year's Activities

Interesting Figures on Expenditures on Roads, Bridges and Public Buildings

EDMONTON, Feb. 15.—Under the following heads: Main Highways Construction; Main Highways Maintenance; District Highways and Local Roads; Ferry Construction and Operation; Bridges; Surveys; and Building Construction and Maintenance, a report of the Department of Public Works for the nine months ending December 31st, 1928, has been laid on the table of the Legislative Assembly. The report also contained a memorandum of licenses issued under the Public Vehicles Act, and statistics of the Provincial gaols at Fort Saskatchewan and Lethbridge for the calendar year 1928; as well as a schedule of the grants paid from revenue and from capital to the improvement districts and municipalities during the nine months period ending December 31st last.

Highways Maintenance

The largest expenditure from income account for maintenance of main highways was the sum of \$59,339 spent on the Calgary to Nanton stretch of fifty-four miles. Other amounts reaching toward that figure are: for the ninety-five miles from Calgary to Red Deer, \$42,710; and for the 150 miles from Grassy Lake to Crow's Nest \$43,667. The total expenditures in this schedule amount to \$406,915.

Fifty-six ferries operated by the Department cost for operation and maintenance during the last nine months of the year the gross sum of \$49,302. The highest operating cost was that of Dunvegan on the Peace River, \$707, in addition to a maintenance cost of \$749. The largest expenditure under both headings of any one ferry reached the sum of \$1,652 at Brosseau over the North Saskatchewan. Eleven ferries were constructed or reconstructed and six ferry shacks built during the nine months.

Details are given in the report of the

expenditure of \$1,339,708 for grading and surfacing of main highways.

During the nine months' period a total of 564 bridges were dealt with, classified as follows:

Steel bridges constructed or reconstructed.....	42
Timber bridges built.....	396
Timber bridges maintained.....	123
Concrete culverts.....	3

Four surveyors comprised the outside staff of the Surveys branch during the past season. Their work was of the usual nature, paying particular attention to the completion of main highways as far as possible.

Summary of Building Activities

The building activities of the Department during the nine months may be summarized as follows:

At Ponoka Mental Hospital, one dormitory, \$35,000; seven-roomed residence, \$8,000; five-roomed cottage, \$4,500.

At Oliver Mental Institute, store room and dormitory, \$30,000; two five-roomed cottages at a cost of \$3,500 each; a barn, \$3,500.

At the Lethbridge Jail, two cottages of \$3,000 each.

At the Institute of Technology, Calgary, an addition to the Machinery Building, \$30,000.

At Grande Prairie, a small court house, \$10,000 including furnishings.

At the Red Deer Provincial Training School, two sun parlors and lavatory, \$9,000.

A two and one half story dormitory at the Agricultural School, Vermilion, \$225,000, together with a barn and shed, \$6,900.

Small farm buildings, etc., at Olds School of Agriculture. —N.F.P.

During the year 1928 books to the number of 59,499, in 1,138 travelling libraries, were sent by the Saskatchewan Government to rural districts and small villages throughout the Province. The average circulation of each book was 10. The expenditure to maintain this service was \$22,000.

Appeals from Decision of Weeds Inspector

Agricultural Committee Makes Important Recommendations for Amendment of New Bill

NOTE: An article dealing with previous discussion of the provisions of the Noxious Weeds Act, in the Committee of Agriculture will be found on page 23 of this issue.

EDMONTON, Feb. 21.— That the past three wet seasons had greatly favored the growth of weeds; that farmers were buying rod-weeders in increasing numbers; that they would buy and use chemicals when it was sound economy to do so; and that he resented the imputation that farmers are not alive to the menace of weeds, were the strong statements made by W. H. Shield (U.F.A.), Macleod, at the sitting of the Committee of the Alberta Legislature on Agriculture this morning.

For the purpose of considering the draft of a new act "Respecting Noxious Weeds," the Minister of Agriculture had brought into committee Deputy Minister H. A. Craig, Field Crops Commissioner W. J. Stephen, and others.

Important amendments ordered to be

drafted by the committee were, that an appeal be made possible from the decision of the inspector to a local body, with the field crops commissioner as the final court of appeal; also that an inspector should have power to spend more than the statutory amount per quarter section, \$160.00, in other than rural areas; thus providing for control of weeds in villages and town areas.

Much discussion took place over the question as to whether a farmer had the legal right to move weed-infested feed from one part of his farm to another over the road. It was ruled that this was not permissible under the old act; and agreed that his rights in this connection were covered by the clause providing for an appeal.

Weeds Gaining Ground

Col. C. Y. Weaver (Cons.), Edmonton, asked whether there was assurance of any improvement in the weed conditions throughout the Province; or were the weeds gaining ground? Mr. Gillis, of the inspection branch, replied that they were from his observations undoubtedly gaining. Particularly was this true of wild oats in his own municipality. To meet the need an appropriation for combatting weeds had been asked of \$45,000 as against \$21,000 last year. The Department intended to keep inspectors at work during the winter conducting surveys and giving lectures. A school for weed inspectors was about to be held at the University.

In answer to a question by Sam Brown (U.F.A.) High River, the Deputy Minister stated that there were now eight agricultural agents and two assistants throughout the Province from Medicine Hat to Grande Prairie. The question as to the use of these men instead of inspectors was raised by A. L. Sanders (U.F.A.) Stettler.

It was decided by the Committee to add to the definition of the word "owner" in the act, where the owner is described as "every person who has any estate or interest in land or grain" the following safeguarding clause "other than a mortgage or encumbrance not in possession."

PERSONS NATURALIZED IN 1928

The total number of persons naturalized in Canada during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1928, was 13,466, according to the annual report of the secretary of state, tabled in the House of Commons recently. This number includes the wives of persons to whom the certificates were issued, also the minor children whose names were shown on the certificates. The report shows that natives of Poland constituted the largest national unit to obtain naturalization, with a total of 2,188. Italians came next with 2,156; while natives of the United States were third with a total of 2,031. Other nationalities showed: 1,576 Russians, 1,557 Austrians, 325 Norwegians, 826 Rumanians, 417 Swedes, 315 Germans, 293 Belgians, 231 Finns. One Arabian and one Egyptian secured naturalization during the period noted.

PRE-ELECTION ADVICE IN U.S.

(By Will Rogers, the "Anti-Bunk" Candidate)

I know what the farmer needs, but I can't give it to him. But I am going to tell him before election that I can't give it to him—not afterwards. I can tell him what he needs. He needs a punch in the jaw, if he believes that either of the parties cares a damn about him after the election. That's all the farmer needs, and that's all he'll get.

A Thriving Alberta Industry

The Commercial Life

Business in Force Increased.....	11.21%
Assets Increased.....	33.44%
Reserves Increased.....	28.52%
Premium Income Increased.....	13.52%
Total Income Increased.....	16.20%
Interest Income Increased.....	30.65%

Average Rate of Interest Earned...7.56%

Paid in claims for the Year.....\$42,772

all of which were paid within 24 hours of receipt of proof.

YEAR	BUSINESS IN FORCE	ASSETS	POLICY RESERVES	PREMIUM INCOME	INTEREST INCOME
1918	\$ 184,000	\$ 71,905	\$ 11,825	\$ 5,578	\$ 2,873
1920	723,000	109,699	29,763	22,586	5,963
1922	3,920,359	229,725	123,938	89,368	11,422
1924	5,754,629	400,866	312,463	156,998	15,181
1926	6,790,998	611,909	519,862	223,174	28,681
1928	\$10,058,498	\$1,024,117	\$863,803	\$316,771	\$52,394

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Agency Registrar, W. E. Smith, Esq.

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The Commercial Life is developing its field organization for the purpose of taking advantage of the greater prosperity and development in Western Canada and is prepared to appoint full time or part time representatives in all districts where the company is not now represented in Alberta, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Communicate directly with the Head Office Agency Department or with the nearest Branch Office of the Company.

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NEWS FROM ALBERTA LIVESTOCK POOL HEAD OFFICE

Official Information for Members of the Alberta Co-operative Livestock Producers, Ltd.

Loss Through Condemnation Insurance \$529,277

Figures Covering Eleven Year Period
Submitted at Meeting of Livestock
Union

At a convention of the Western Canada Livestock Union held at Edmonton, February 21st, a resolution dealing with the Packers Condemnation Insurance, sponsored by A. B. Claypool, came in for considerable discussion. Dr. E. A. Watson, Chief Pathologist of the Federal Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, gave statistics covering 1928 in Western Canada, recording amount collected as Condemnation Insurance; also amount lost on condemned animals. The undernoted figures are from his Report:

1918-1928

Cattle Valued at \$50 per Head

Total number cattle slaughtered—	
3,036,150.....	\$151,807,500
Condemnation Insurance $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent...	759,037
Total number carcasses condemned—	
30,036.....	1,501,800

Loss to Packers..... 742,763

Swine Valued at \$20 per Head

Total number hogs slaughtered, 7,376,069.....	\$147,521,380
Condemnation Insurance $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent...	737,606
Total number carcasses condemned,	
26,206.....	524,120
Gain to Packers.....	213,486

After deducting $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent condemnation insurance, the net loss on cattle and swine through condemnations of whole carcasses, in Western Canada, for the eleven year period, 1918-1928, at above valuation (and exclusive of condemned portions of carcasses) is thus shown as \$529,277, or nearly one-fifth of one per cent of the total valuation.

Method of Valuation Questioned

However, it must be noted that Dr. Watson has admitted this is only a rough estimate, and it must also be noted that all condemned meat returns a certain amount of revenue in the nature of hides, horns and bones and tankage, and there has been no allowance made for this. Although Dr. Watson's statistics, according to his statement are accurate concerning condemned carcasses, which he in his Department kept absolute record of, the manner in which he places his valuation on condemned carcasses we consider is an open question. Therefore, with all due respect to Dr. Watson's figures, we must have a closer analysis of this custom before we can feel that it is legitimate in all respects.

L. C. McQuat, of Ottawa, also gave an outline of the proposed new hog grading resolution. The proposed grades are select, weights will be 190 to 230 lbs., fed and watered, and will have a premium of 50 cents per cwt. over the bacon hog, which weight will be 180 to 230 lbs. and will have an arbitrary advantage price over the butcher class. The differential for the butchers is looked forward to be

around 25c per cwt. The weight of butcher hogs will be 160 to 240, fed and watered. This weight takes in the heavy end of our present shop hog grade, also the light end of the present heavy grade.

This grade we consider will be very favorable to the producer, as there has been a considerable amount of the light end of the heavy grade hogs that were dressing out equal and better than thick smooth hogs, especially hogs of good conformation.

Fills in Weak Point

The bacon grade which is an intermediate grade between selects and butcher will also fill in one of the weakest points in the grading system, as there are many producers who have raised quality of their hogs to within 25 per cent of the select line, but not having reached that point have been treated and paid on the same basis as the producer who has made no endeavor to advance quality, but has continued with the ordinary lard type. Whether the basic price will rest on the bacon or butcher hog will depend on development of the system.

Fish and Game Outlook Is Promising

The Alberta fish and game outlook for 1929 is the most promising in many years, so C. A. Hayden, president of the Provincial association, stated after his mission to Edmonton, where Dr. W. A. Wilson, President of Northern Alberta Fish and Game Association, and he placed before the Agricultural Committee of the Assembly the various recommendations made by the local associations and by the Alberta Association. Mr. Hayden says that the reception accorded Dr. Wilson and himself, representing the

Provincial Association, was friendly and sympathetic and that it was intimated that the members of the Legislature were favorably disposed towards the program which would improve the game resources of the Province.

Plans have been completed, Mr. Hayden says, to bring 600 Mongolian pheasants, 2,000 Chinese ring-necked pheasants and 3,000 or more pheasant eggs, Mongolian and Ring-necked, this year. The Provincial Department of Agriculture is securing eggs for hatching at its farms. Ultimately the idea is to distribute the eggs and young birds over these farms, but of course this cannot be done for a few years till the flocks are developed.

4,000 More Pheasants

The various local associations and individuals have also indicated that they will order eggs and birds and it is expected that 4,000 more pheasants will be set out in Alberta this year. Last year between 2,500 and 3,000 birds were set loose at various places, mainly in the Calgary district where the local association released 1,500 pheasants.

Observations have been made throughout the winter and their report is to the effect that the pheasants have flourished. They have taken kindly to the Alberta climate and artificial feeding has not been necessary. From what can be gathered so far, the pheasants will provide another hardy game bird for Alberta.

This spring the Calgary association is setting out 100 Bob White Quail for the purpose of learning whether these birds will do well in Alberta.

Mr. Hayden stated that every local association in Alberta and also the U.F.A. are urging that there be an active campaign for the destruction of crows and magpies and these Locals are also urging that the open list for owls and hawks be extended, as a means of preserving game.

With regard to game fish, with the functioning of the new hatchery at Waterton Lakes the capacity of hatcheries in the National Parks in Alberta will be 3,200,000 fry in a season. There is also a temporary hatchery at Jasper and the Alberta Association is strongly urging the Federal Government to establish a permanent hatchery for game fish in the Edmonton district.

Increasing Appreciation of Value of Higher Education Shown in Report

Figures Brought Down in Legislature Reveal Progress, but Point to Need for
Remodelling of Rural System

That there is a steadily growing and increasing appreciation of higher education throughout Alberta is strongly brought out by figures submitted to the Assembly by the Minister of Education, Hon. Perren E. Baker.

In 1906 the first annual report submitted to the newly created Legislature showed that the percentage of school pupils in attendance in the High School grades stood at 2.41. In the past year the percentage has risen to 11.44. The total enrollment in the schools of the Province was increased in 1928 by 4,706 and approximately 375 of this number is to be found in the High Schools. The enrollment for the Provinces is approximately 160,000.

It is significant of the necessity for a remodelling of our school system that notwithstanding the increasing recogni-

tion of the value of education, out of the ninety-five new schools built during the year, only one was a rural high school, thirteen were two-roomed schools, while eighty-one were one-room schools. These figures do not take into account the building of new plants in towns and cities. One inspector's report showed that in his area only 31 schools out of a total of 115 employed the same teacher as last year.

Several had changed more than once. This inspector, whose area was one of the wealthiest and oldest in the Province, gave it as his conviction that "this constant changing of teachers is a distinct weakness of our system."

Fifty-six New School Districts

Fifty-six new school districts were organized during the year. Of these seven-

teen were in the far north beyond Township Seventy, while thirty-three were north of the township in which Edmonton stands, township fifty-three.

New high school buildings have been erected in Red Deer, Drumheller, Vermilion, Lethbridge and Calgary. Calgary will open a splendid new technical school in September. The enrollment at the Institute of Technology there was 1745 last year, and is expected to reach 2,000 this year, so great is the demand for technical education. More than a million and a half of debentures were issued during the year, mostly for the erection of new buildings.

Evening classes are being carried on in a larger number of schools than ever before. New text books in agriculture have been issued for both elementary and secondary schools, also a new system of writing manuals, designed to accompany the Alberta curriculum in writing. The enrollment in correspondence courses reached about 300, of whom thirteen were in Grade 8. Ten of these correspondence pupils wrote the regular high school entrance exams and were successful.

The increase of pupils writing departmental examinations exceeded a thousand. The success of the pupils in the high school grades is shown by the fact that 75.9 per cent of the units were passed successfully. One hundred and forty-nine pupils obtained honors, making an average of more than seventy five per cent on all the units required for matriculation or Normal School entrance.

About \$160,000 worth of books were sold by the schoolbook branch. Ninety-four per cent of this business was done with Canadian firms, the remaining four per cent with British and American firms. N.F.P.

DOMESTIC FREIGHT RATES TO B.C.

J. E. Armishaw, secretary of the United Farmers of B.C., appeared before the Agricultural Committee of the Legislature recently to request that they recommend to the Assembly the endorsement of the B.C. farmers in their attempt to secure equalization of freight rates from the prairies to the coast, with the export rate. He gave figures showing that so great was the discrimination against the domestic consumers of low grades of wheat used for, say chicken-feed, that the railways had acknowledged a profit on feed grains consumed in B.C. of 169 per cent as against 29 per cent in the case of export. The flour manufacturers who were able to secure the export rate, in the case of low grade wheat milled by them for export to the Orient, were afraid of the competition of the American mills on the Puget Sound. One manufacturer had said to Mr. Armishaw: "We've got the money and the power and will fight you to the death." Mr. Armishaw also dealt with the mountain differential, maintaining that the rates were set not on the basis of the low haulage cost of the Canadian National but on the basis of the higher haulage costs of the Canadian Pacific.

The feeling of the Committee as expressed was very sympathetic to the cause of the B.C. farmers. Action was delayed, however, till more information could be secured.

A report upon further developments will be given in a later issue of *The U.F.A.*

"No poet has ever written an ecstatic sonnet in celebration of conscription."—Gilbert K. Chesterton.

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Secretary.

LACOMBE, ALBERTA

NEWS FROM ALBERTA DAIRY POOL HEAD OFFICE

Official Information for Members of the Alberta Co-operative Dairy Producers, Ltd.

Gratifying Progress of Southern Pool Reported at Annual Meeting

Membership Increasing Rapidly—President's and Manager's Reports Review Operations—Directors Elected

The annual meeting of the Southern Alberta Dairy Pool was held at the Board of Trade, Calgary, on February 22nd, 1929, and it was indeed gratifying to see such a large turnout, there being some 65 members present when our President, Joseph Standish, of Midnapore, opened the meeting.

After the President's report had been presented many of those present used the opportunity to sign the new contract form. Some discussion took place in regard to the new and old contract.

Mr. Larsen, Manager of the Alberta Dairy Pool at Alix, was present and gave a very interesting report from his recent visit to Vancouver and the possibilities which lie ahead of the Alberta Dairy Pool. Mr. Larsen proved to those present the necessity of close co-operation and gave the members much valuable information.

Some discussion took place upon cream grading and those present were all in favor of more graders being placed at country points. It was also found desirable to keep the graders all the year round so that they will be of more assistance to the creamery by which they are employed.

District Directors

As the membership is increasing very rapidly in numbers, it was decided to divide the area from which the Southern Pool receives its cream into five districts with a director elected for each district, as follows:

District 1.—Territory adjacent the C.P.R. south line. Director: Mr. Jas. McCollough, Aldersyde.

District 2.—Millarville District. Director: Mr. Jos. Standish, R.R.1, Midnapore.

District 3.—Cochrane Division. Director: Mr. Geo. Rice, Carstairs, Alta.

District 4.—Red Deer Riding. Director: Mr. Wm. Burns, Three Hills.

District 5.—Bow River. Director: Mr. L. B. Hart, Carbon.

President's Report

The report of Joseph Standish, President, was as follows:

In looking back over the last two years, I believe we have something to be proud of in our effort of co-operation.

Starting operation on April 4th, 1927, with 52 members, at the end of 1927 we had around 120, and in September 1928, over 150 members. In June an effort was made to amalgamate the Calgary Association and the Provincial Association. However, at this meeting very little was accomplished. Therefore, another meeting was held on August 3rd by representatives of each Association and some headway was made.

A meeting was later held in Edmonton in conjunction with the Government officials. It was decided that the most satisfactory way for an amalgamation was to form a new Association which would be a unit of a new Provincial Association. This would then consist of the three units—Edmonton, Alix and Calgary.

Articles of Association were prepared and a meeting called for August 12th, 1928, in Calgary. The Board of the Calgary Association, representative of the old Provincial Dairy Pool, and Mr. Larsen were present. After all matters were fully discussed it was decided to form the Southern Alberta Dairy Pool which would take up the position held

by the Calgary Association on the Mayfair Creamery. An arrangement was made whereby the produce from both the old Associations would be handled by the new Southern Pool, all members to be allowed to join the new Association without cost providing they were in good standing in either of the old Associations.

The new unit of the Alberta Dairy Pool in Calgary was registered on August 12th, 1928. Provisional Directors were elected consisting of the five Directors of the old Board also two members from the old Provincial Pool. These men were to hold office until the first general meeting, which is today. The membership today stands at 368.

Appreciation of Mr. Larsen

We are able to report this splendid progress which was all done from a small beginning, and we are most pleased to know our Pool creameries are operating so successfully. Too much appreciation cannot be shown to Mr. Larsen at Alix who placed the Mayfair creamery with sufficient working capital at our disposal. I doubt if Mr. Larsen will ever get the thanks that should be coming to him for what he has done for the farmers of Alberta by putting into practice a method of co-operation which has proved to be so successful. I do not think he is looking for any compensation, but I

THE SOUTHERN ALBERTA DAIRY POOL LTD, CALGARY, ALTA.

Balance Sheet for Period Sept. 1, 1928 to Dec. 31, 1928

ASSETS

Fixed Assets.....\$14,700.00
Current Assets..... 10,770.65
Total Assets.....\$25,470.65

LIABILITIES

Bank, Member Shares, and outstanding cream coupons.....\$23,513.44
Balance: Assets over Liabilities..... 1,957.21
Balance.....\$25,470.65

I hereby certify that I have checked and audited the books, in connection with the above figures, and certify them to be correct.

(Signed) J. D. Johnstone,
Auditor.

do hope the day will come when the Alberta farmers will be able to show him their appreciation.

By having the five years contract signed it is possible to build up a sound and paying business for the dairy farmer, who receives all surplus made over the actual cost of running the business. In 1927 this amounted to 2½ cents per pound fat over and above the daily price. One cent of this was placed in reserve and 1½ cents paid cash. During the first eight months a surplus of 3½ cents was accumulated and paid out in cash. During the first 17 months our members received nearly \$8,000 dollars over the daily price.

For some reason the butter production in Alberta has been going down for a number of years. In 1928 the production was 1,854,712 lbs. less than in 1927, but it appears to me that we have now reached the bottom, as corresponding figures from this year with those of last year all show a very substantial increase.

Also it will interest you to know that we have 30,000 more milkstrain yearling heifers in 1928, many of which will be producing this year. With the splendid market for cream through the co-operative creameries I do believe that the dairy business can look forward to great improvements in the time to come.

Manager's Report

The report of H. S. Brockner, Manager, follows:

The year 1928 was in many ways a good year for our farmers. Not alone did they have one of the largest crops in history, but for those farmers who are milking cows big changes took place during that year.

Especially does this hold true for those farmers who have joined up with the Alberta Dairy Pool. The three units all showed their ability to market the cream from their members very profitably.

The mere fact that the Pool was in business increased cream prices very materially for every cream producer, but to members of the Alberta Dairy Pool it meant on top of that an extra profit on every pound of at least 3 cents. We could give no better proof

that the Dairy Pool is a success, and we earnestly hope to get the fullest support of all cream shippers.

The individual competitive merchant is rapidly realizing that he is losing out to the big group of co-operators. The farmers in Southern Alberta are now determined to make their Pool a success. When Mr. Stoodley left here at the end of the year, we had 273 members. Since then, with no canvasser on the road, we have received in our office no less than 92 contracts from people who are anxious to support the movement. This means, in other words, that the Pool idea is very rapidly gaining the confidence of our dairy farmers. A few figures might interest you.

Some Striking Figures

From January to September, 1928—eight months—we had 20 members who sent in over 1000 pounds of butterfat to the Pool; 15 members received a bonus from \$50 to as much as \$112 with an average bonus cheque for each member of \$23.98.

By keeping up prices on butterfat the Pool is fulfilling its mission. Dairying is made profitable and this will help better than anything else to keep the young people and also newcomers on the farm.

In January we gave some facts about our output and sale of butter, which showed you we had an increase of over 85 per cent in our sales. What does this mean? It simply means this, that we have a large market waiting for the cream producer who is not yet sending his cream to the Pool.

Good Local Market

No doubt we will this season reach a make of about 15-20,000 pounds of butter weekly, and it will interest you to know that even with such an increase we will still be able to sell all our butter in or around our city. This is due to the fact that the grocers realize that fresh churned Alberta butter will compete very favorably with re-worked New Zealand butter. Consequently, they choose to support the Pool creamery. To push the sale of our butter we should all co-operate to the fullest extent. You can do so by asking your merchant to stock the Pool butter not alone in the city but also in your home town. By so doing you could help us very materially in selling the butter which of course is the most important factor for a successful dairy business.

By using POOL butter only you are doing your part to decrease the import of butter from other parts of the world and also to keep the Canadian dollar in Alberta instead of supporting competitive interest in other countries.

Let us all organize and help to build up this business and show others that the farmers have now come to a stage where they can and will run their own business.

LABOR WOMEN AND POOL BUTTER

A suggestion by a member, to a recent meeting of the Women's Section of the Labor Party, Calgary, that members should support the co-operative principle by purchasing butter made by the Dairy Pool, was received with hearty applause, and many of the women present declared their intention of using only Pool butter in future. There were about 60 members of the Women's Section present.

NEVER LETS GO

For **Strength**

Look for this Alligator Brand on the lacing and on the box and your protection is assured.

Long Lasting Quick Easy

Just Hammer It On

A smooth powerful, long lasting joint—it protects your belt ends and insures dependable service. Used and recommended by leading manufacturers of threshing machines and belting—and by farmers everywhere. Your dealer has it. Ask for it by name.

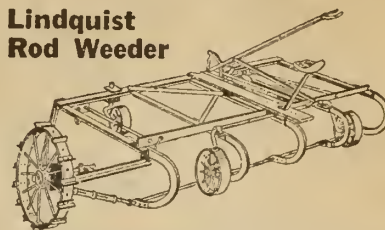
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ALLIGATOR

TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFFICE

STEEL BELT LACING

Lindquist Rod Weeder



A complete steel machine, fully equipped with everything necessary to do the best work. Can be set at any depth and raised above the ground for transportation. Easy to operate, positive drive, all wearing parts are reduced to the minimum, while those parts that generally give trouble and cause delay are entirely eliminated. Solid construction of all wearing parts ensuring long life. The Lindquist has successfully been used for two years, in Alberta and Saskatchewan. It is highly recommended by those who use them. Recommendations can be furnished on request. Built for horses and tractors, or both. 8, 10, 12 and 14 ft. size. Write for particulars.

THE LINDQUIST ROD WEEDERS
136 15th AVE. EAST CALGARY

Ship Your Grain TO UNITED GRAIN GROWERS LTD.

BANK OF HAMILTON CHAMBERS
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LOUGHEED BUILDING
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Get the fullest possible protection



THRIFT The Foundation of Every Honestly Earned Fortune

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Purchased and Redeemed at Par—Payable on Demand

HON. R. G. REID
Provincial Treasurer

For Further Particulars write or apply to

W. V. NEWSON
Deputy Prov. Treasurer

PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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Garments and Household Goods

of all kinds cleaned and dyed. Price list and information upon request.

EMPIRE CLEANING & DYEING CO., Ltd.
234-236 Twelfth Ave. West, Calgary, Alta.

CANCER

and Tumors successfully treated (removed) without knife or pain. All work guaranteed. Come, or write for free Sanatorium book Dr. WILLIAMS SANATORIUM 1525 University Av., Minneapolis, Minn.



SEED AND FEED

FOR SALE — SWEET CLOVER SEED, \$8.00 PER
hundred pounds; bags, fifty cents each. I. V.
Macklin, Grande Prairie, Alta.

SELLING GRADE 1 BANNER OATS—GERMINA-
tion, 94 per cent.; free from wild oats; 75c., sacks
extra. R. Cates, Oyen, Alta.

GARNET SEED WHEAT FOR SALE AT INDE-
pendent elevator, Daysland. \$1.25 per bushel.

GOLD RAIN OATS—GOVERNMENT TEST, 96
in six days. Price, car lots, 70c., F.O.B. Mr.
S. C. Riddle, Carstairs.

FOR SALE—GARNET SEED WHEAT, GRADE NO.
2, Government Certificate No. 68-5516; Germina-
tion, 98 per cent. in six days; cleaned ready for
drill, 1,050 bushels. Price, \$1.35 per bushel
Car lot, F.O.B. Mecheche. Mrs. J. A. Brown,
Morrin, Alta.

CAR ABUNDANCE OATS—GOVERNMENT GER-
mination test, 93 per cent., 75c. from bin; 80c.
cleaned, F.O.B. Norma (C. N.) W. H. Schmidt,
Blackfalds.

PURE GARNET WHEAT, GERMINATION SIX
days, 97 per cent.; Grade one; cleaned and sacked,
\$1.50 bushel. T. J. Anderson, Bon Accord, Al-
berta.

FOR SALE — FIRST GENERATION MARQUIS
wheat; germination, 96 per cent.; weight, per
bushel, 65 lbs.; grade 3 (only on account of bran
frost), \$4.25 bushel. Have also car lot lower
germination. P. J. Rock, Morrin.

GARNET SEED WHEAT, NO. 2 NORTHERN,
Germination, 96 per cent., 6 days. \$1.25, machine
run; cleaned \$1.50 bushel. L. A. Phillips, Car-
eland.

TRELLE'S MARQUIS WHEAT, GROWN FROM
registered seed. Government germination test,
94 per cent. Price and particulars. Car lots.
Arthur Goshing, Dalmead.

WHITE BLOSSOM SWEET CLOVER SEED 7c.
per lb. F.O.B. Fleet; bags extra. Sample on re-
quest. P. English, Fleet.

MARQUIS WHEAT—CERTIFICATE NO. E. 16881—
Field inspected. Eligible for registration. Second
generation. Cleaned. Grown on breaking.
Germination test, 96. Price, \$1.50. Sacks extra.
Thos. Noble, Daysland, Alta.

THIRD GENERATION MARQUIS WHEAT—ELI-
gible for registration; Government germination
test, 94 per cent. Price, \$1.95, cleaned. L. W.
Robinson, Veteran.

MARQUIS WHEAT FOR SALE—FIELD INSPECT-
ed; reg. No. 3; third generation. \$1.35 per bushel,
car lots, F.O.B. Wardlow; also reg. No. 2, third
generation, sacked and sealed, \$1.75 per bushel;
also Victory oats, registered No. 1, third genera-
tion, 95 per cent. germination, \$1.00 bushel,
sacked and sealed. J. R. Hannaford, Howie,
Alberta.

SECOND GENERATION MARQUIS WHEAT—
Registered, sealed and sacked. Grade 3, germina-
tion 97, 6 days, Certificate No. 68-2932; \$1.75 bu-
shel. Also 3rd generation field inspected Marquis
No. 1 seed, germination 95, 6 days, Certificate
No. 68-2929, \$1.35 bushel in carload lots F.O.B.
Morrin or Kirkpatrick. Mueller Bros., Gosh
Pine Creek, Alta.

ONE HUNDRED BUSHELS REWARD WHEAT.
Certificate No. 68-5954, grade No. 3 through slight
frost damage. Nelson Smith, Olds.

AGENTS WANTED

MAKE \$100.00 A WEEK AND UP SELLING OUR
fine made-to-measure, all-wool suits and over-
coats direct to wearer. Greatest proposition in
Canada. We supply your own clothes free, also
complete instructions, samples and sales-pro-
motion methods. Participate in our profit-
sharing plan. We deliver and collect direct.
Satisfaction guaranteed. If you are interested in
becoming a \$5,000.00 man, write at once to
London Tailoring Company, 1485 Bleury St.,
Dept. F235, Montreal.

WE START YOU IN YOUR OWN BUSINESS—
Good income sure and quick by our method.
Success assured. Costs you nothing to try. In-
experience no drawback. Write for full informa-
tion about this plan. Wilson Bradshaw Co.,
Dept. W-16, Box 1015, Montreal.

TAILORING SALESMEN WANTED — IF YOU
are looking for a money-making line, where your
customers will be guaranteed perfect satisfaction—
where your profits will be good and the bonuses
generous—apply immediately, telling us about
your past experience, if any. National Mail
Order House, Limited, Dept. N-16, Box 2017,
Montreal.

WHY DO BARTON CLOTHES CARRY A GUAR-
antee? Why do Barton salesmen find it easy
to get and keep customers? These questions
are easily answered when you see the Barton
line. Our all-wool, made-to-measure clothes are
such good value, and your commission so gener-
ous, that salesmen everywhere are concentrating
on the Barton line. A few good territories still
open. Write to-day. Barton Tailoring Co.,
Dept. B-16, Box 241, Montreal.

Is Tariff Retaliation Worth While?

Woodsworth Thinks St. Lawrence Water-
ways Scheme Better Basis of
Bargaining

Referring to proposed drastic increases
of the United States tariff, J. S. Woods-
worth, M.P., speaking in the House of
Commons in the debate on the address,
cited reasons why in his opinion Canada
could find no effective remedy in tariff
retaliation. He expressed the belief that
the negotiations re the development of the
St. Lawrence Waterways scheme would
provide a basis for bargaining to prevent
the proposed increases.

The portion of Mr. Woodsworth's
speech upon this subject is quoted below:

"First, let me say a word with regard
to trade and the tariff, since that is the
topic which we hear most frequently dis-
cussed when we are discussing our policy
with regard to the United States. The
indications, as we all know, point to the
raising of the American tariff. Should
Canada attempt to retaliate? That is a
rather important question. I would say
personally that it seems to me that Can-
ada has in her hands a better card than
that—the St. Lawrence waterway. The
relation between this project and the
American high protection policy were
referred to in rather guarded language
in the letter transmitted last year by our
Minister at Washington to the Secretary
of State of the United States. I would
think that so long as the Americans are
anxious to build the St. Lawrence water-
way, there is no particular reason why we
should not be in a position to bargain very
successfully to prevent the very substan-
tial increase in the American tariff that is
now threatened.

"But with regard to the economic prin-
ciple involved, let me refer the House to a
speech delivered by Sir Herbert Holt at
the annual general meeting of the Royal
Bank. He was dealing with the United
States, but surely the economic principle
which he enunciated ought to apply
equally to Canada; so when he mentions
Canada I have substituted the United
States, and vice versa. Sir Herbert
Holt's advice as an economist—I use his
very words, but, 'mutatis mutandis,'—is:

"It would seem that those who
propose such tariff changes fail to realize
that checks upon foreign (e.g. U.S.)
prosperity automatically check the vol-
ume of goods which can be exported by
Canada, and that on the other hand
continued improvement in foreign con-
ditions (e.g. U.S.) bring corresponding
increases in the volume of goods which
we can export. From this viewpoint
it might be considered economic states-
manship for Canada to discover means
to increase our exports (e.g. to U.S.)
rather than to consider measures which
will constitute new trade barriers."

"That, as I have said, is the principle
enunciated by Sir Herbert Holt, but of

course he applies it to the United States.
By reference to the bank's annual state-
ment it will be seen that I have simply
made the necessary changes to make the
principle applicable to Canada.

"In corroboration of this economic
principle, so well stated, let me quote
from the tariff manifesto issued in 1926
by a large group of European manufac-
turers and financiers. Unless I am greatly
mistaken there was a reference to this
very passage in the speech of Sir Herbert
Holt. The manifesto contains the fol-
lowing:

"There can be no recovery in
Europe till politicians in all territories,
old and new, realize that trade is not
war, but a process of exchange, that in
time of peace our neighbors are our
customers, and that this prosperity is
a condition of our own well-being. If
we check their dealing, their power to
pay their debts diminishes, and their
power to purchase our goods is reduced.
Restricted imports involve restricted
exports, and no nation can afford to
lose its export trade."

"This is preeminently true of Canada,
and I hope we shall not allow ourselves
to be stampeded by the threatened up-
ward revision of the United States tariff.
You might as well tie a tourniquet around
your arm to stop the flow of the arteries
and then expect that the veins would not
be at all affected."

Impressions of Recent U.F.A. Convention by a Visitor

On looking down at the U.F.A. dele-
gates seated in the spacious centre of the
Convention Hall, one is struck by the
preponderance of grey heads in this
representative group of farmers.

There may be good reasons for this, as
grey hairs suggest wisdom and mature
judgment, both of which are valuable
assets to any such gathering. Then
again there is the inclination of the young
farmers to let "Dad" do the talking
whilst they keep things hustling on the
farm. This is essentially a young man's
country, but it might be just as well to
realize that it is equally important for the
young man to keep in personal contact
with his U.F.A. organization, as it is to
be right on the mark with his farm
operations.

When looking at things from this point
of view, one realizes the great need to
encourage our Juniors. If they get a
good hold of our principles, and the work
done by our organization, there will soon
be an increase instead of decline in our
membership. Let everyone of our Senior
Locals make a big effort this year to
assist the Juniors in every way possible.
In a well settled district, where there is a
U.F.A., U.F.W.A. and Junior Local, all
going strong, there will be no lack of
material for social enterprise, and it is
the organized farmers who can make
rural life more enjoyable and profitable
for the younger generation.

Towns and cities believe in slogans,
so why not a slogan for the country
folks? How would "Work and Play with
the U.F.A." do for a slogan? If we fol-
lowed it up, there is no reason why life
in our rural communities could not be
made better and brighter for all of us.

Member of Willowdale U.F.A.

LACOMBE BULL SALE

The Lacombe Annual Bull Sale will
be held on May 29th; entries will close
on April 25th.

HELP WANTED

MANAGER WANTED—CAPABLE MAN WANTED
to manage established Co-operative Association,
on Commission Basis. 1928 turnover, \$85,000.
Activities: General Store, Livestock, Twine and
Coal. Duties to commence March 15, 1929.
Applications to be made to F. Scott, Secretary
Waskatenau, Alta.

SELL MADE-TO-MEASURE SHIRTS TO BIG
men, small men, and all men who are hard to fit.
Wonderful side-line for clothing salesmen. Easy
to earn \$25 weekly additional profit. Big selec-
tion; beautiful samples free. Write Stetson
Shirt Company, Dept. X, Sommer Bldg., Mont-
real.

POULTRY

SELLING BRONZE TURKEYS—TOMS, \$8.50;
hens, \$4.00. Hans Hille, Cereal, Alta.

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS, BRED-TO-LAY,
from registered male; \$2.50; others, \$2.00. R. Cates, Oyen, Alta.

BABY CHICKS, PURE BRED, AND FROM BRITISH
Columbia; trap-nested, R. O. P. flocks; all blood-tested stock. White Leghorns, Wyandottes, Barred Rocks, Rhode Island Reds. Guarantee 100 per cent. live delivery. Send for literature. Canadian Hatcheries, P. O. 1694, Calgary.

ROSE-COMB WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS,
March, April hatched, from selected pen winter layers; sire from mating R.O.P., 216-250, \$4.00; two, \$7.00. Stanley Humphries, Morrin.

PURE-BRED, GOVERNMENT Banded BRONZE
Turkeys; Grade C. Toms, 24-25 1/2 lbs., \$12.00; Hens, 15 lbs., \$7.00. A few unbanded hens, 14 lbs., \$6.00. Barred Rock cockerels, good weight, and splendid laying strain, \$3.00. Mrs. J. W. Cookson, Tofield.

BARRED ROCK ROOSTERS, FROM GOOD LAY-
ing strain, \$2.50 each. L. Higginbottom, El-nora, Alta.

CANADA'S BRED-TO-LAY BABY CHICKS—100
per cent. alive guaranteed. Breeding Certificate sent with Chicks. Leghorns, Barred Rocks, Reds, Anconas, Minorcas, Wyandottes, Orpingtons. 12-Month Poultry Course Free. Tested and Trap-nested Stock. Incubators, Brooders. Free Catalog. First Hatch March 4th. Alex. Taylor's Hatchery, 362 Furby St., Winnipeg, Man.

PROVEN QUALITY S. C. W. LEGHORN BABY
Chicks, from our high-producing, 2-3-year-old hens. Hatching eggs, Breeding stock. Member R. O. P. Association. Olsen's Egg Farm, Olds, Alta.

PURE-BRED, ROSE-COMB RHODE ISLAND
Red Cockerels, \$3.00; two, \$5.00. Mrs. James Millar, Phone 1210, Box 62, Crossfield, Alta.

SELLING PURE-BRED ROSE-COMB R. I. RED
Cockerels; \$2.50 each. Frank Trick, Carstairs, Alta.

BARRED ROCK ROOSTERS—LARGE, VIGOR-
ous birds, March hatched; from dams of pens, 240 to 280 eggs. Sire from dam, 275 to 290; \$3.50 each. Pure-bred Pekin Ducks, or Drakes, \$2 each. Homer Pigeons, \$1 pair. Noel Fearnough, Morrin, Alta.

ALBERTA BRONZE TURKEY BREEDERS'
Association—Sponsored by Dominion Government—has hundreds of inspected, graded and banded turkeys. Prices: Grade "A", toms, \$25; Pullets, \$15; "B", \$15-\$10; "C", \$10-\$7.00. Order through W. C. Lyle, Secretary, Arrow-wood, Alta.

BRED-TO-LAY S. C. W. LEGHORN COCKERELS—
From Government inspected flocks. \$2.00 each. W. Whittaker, Bulwark, Alberta.

S. C. BLACK MINORCAS—COCKERELS AND
Pullets, \$1.50 each. Pullets laying now. Mrs. Wm. Hermann, Milo, Alberta.

FOR SALE—PEARL GUINEAU, \$1.25 EACH.
Mrs. E. V. Gray, Tofield, Route 3.

ROSE-COMB RED COCKERELS—FROM TRAP-
nested and R.O.P. stock. Our own good laying strain. \$5.00 each. Lyle Poultry Farm, Arrow-wood, Alta.

BARRED ROCK COCKERELS—EXHIBITION—
From good laying strain, \$3.00 and \$5.00. H. Pickering, Sylvan Lake, Alta.

S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS AND LIGHT SUSSEX
from Imported stock. Buy your hatching eggs, chicks, pullets and mature stock from the firm that has proved its efficiency in all parts of the Prairie Provinces. Our birds have been bred to lay for generations. Reports of egg production show as high as 82 per cent. this winter. All eggs incubated are from our own stock and from hens not pullets, and are mated to high pedigree R.O.P. males. Write for 1929 catalogue. Burn-side Poultry Farm, Hammond, B. C.

MARTIN LAYING STRAIN—MATURE WYAN-
dotte Cockerels, \$3.00. John Young, Bindloss, Alta.

PURE-BRED BUFF ORPINGTON COCKERELS—
Good laying strain, \$3.00; two for \$5.00. Hugh Simpson, Innisfree, Alta.

POULTRY BUSINESS

BIG MONEY IS BEING MADE FROM POULTRY
by all Graduates of Shaw's Correspondence Poultry Course. Descriptive Booklet Free. Write Dept. P. C., Bay-Charles, Toronto.

BABY CHICKS FROM BEST FLOCKS IN ALBERTA.
Barred Rocks, White Leghorns, Rhode Island Reds, White Wyandottes. Bred to lay. Calgary hatched. Write for price list. Garbert, 1424 Seventeenth Avenue, West, Calgary. W2144.

PURE-BRED BRONZE TURKEYS—TOMS, \$7.00
each. S. Redmond, Edgerton, Alta.

Classified Section

RATE—Five cents per word. Five
insertions for the price of four;
nine for the price of seven; thir-
teen for the price of ten; twenty-
six for the price of nineteen.

TERMS—Cash with order.

WHITE WYANDOTTE COCKERELS GOVERN-
ment - approved, laying stock; heavy, vigorous,
\$2.50 and \$3.00 each. Mrs. C. Laptist, Tofield,
Alberta.

SELLING—BRONZE TURKEY TOMS, OVER 20
lbs. each, \$8.00. Mrs. C. Serviss, Bulwark, Alta.

FREE—PRATT'S 65-PAGE BOOK OF NEW POUL-
try Wrinkles, and complete list of symptoms and
diseases of poultry. Feeds and Supplies Com-
pany, Calgary, agents for the Petersime Electric
Incubators.

MAMMOTH BRONZE TURKEY TOMS—GOOD
color, weight over 20 lbs., \$3.00. Mrs. M. H.
Ward, Arrowwood, Alberta.

S.C. WHITE AND S.C. BLACK LEGHORNS, COCK-
erels—Booking orders for baby chicks, hatching
eggs, mating list. Wetherall, 3628 13a St. West,
Calgary.

WHITE WYANDOTTE HATCHING EGGS—Sired
Martin Cockerel Direct; fifteen, \$2.00. Ready
March 10. Limited, order now. Maurice Mo-
Ginitie, Tofield, Alberta.

MAKE YOUR OWN NATURAL INCUBATOR—
Any boy, over 12 years old, can make a 210-egg
natural incubator from our plans and specifica-
tions in a few hours, out of material about the
farm, or by ordering the necessary lumber, costing
1-10 less than any incubator on the market, and
it will hatch more chickens than any other method.
Impossible to overheat the eggs; natural regula-
tion; no turning or handling eggs, except when
setting. Results absolutely guaranteed or money
refunded. Plans and clear drafted chart mailed
post paid on receipt of \$1.00. Send money to
Adams & Moyes, 9662 Jasper Ave., Edmonton.

WHITE HOLLAND TURKEY TOMS, \$5 EACH.
W. R. Moore, Fort Saskatchewan.

FARM LANDS

WANTED—HEAR FROM OWNER GOOD FARM
for sale. Cash price, particulars. D. F. Bush,
Minneapolis, Minn.

480 ACRES EXCELLENT CLAY LOAM, 3 MILES
from station, school and church. Splendid
buildings and shelter belts. This farm carries
a 60-acre water right, and is an ideal location for
mixed farming in one of the best rural communities
of Alberta. Price, \$55,000 an acre. The Forster
Agency, Lethbridge, Alberta.

WANTED TO BUY—SECTION BEST WHEAT
land; near school. D. Francisco, Buffalo, Alta.

LIVESTOCK

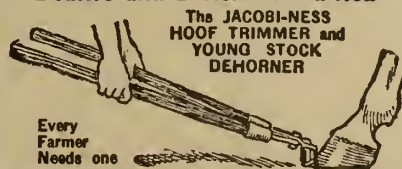
SELLING—ONE PERCHERON STALLION, RISING
three; one rising two. D. L. Loree, Nanton, Alta.

FOR SALE—SHORTHORN BULLS. FRANK
Ballhorn, Wetaskiwin, Alta.

SWINE

PURE-BRED YORKSHIRES, PRICE \$25.00; PA-
pers extra. A. Josephs, Hardisty, Alta.

Dealers and Salesmen Wanted



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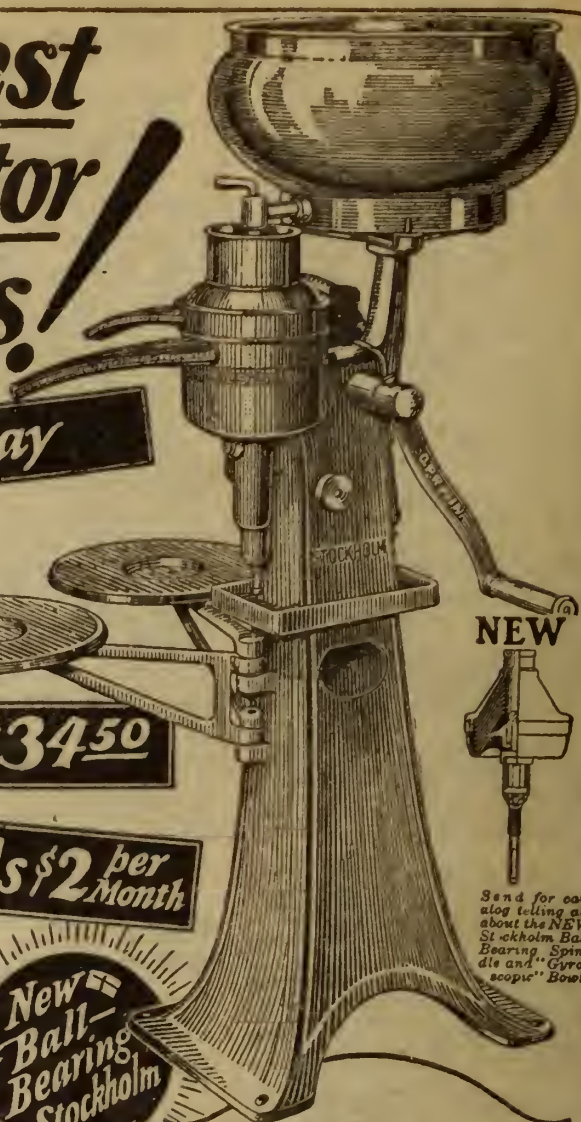
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